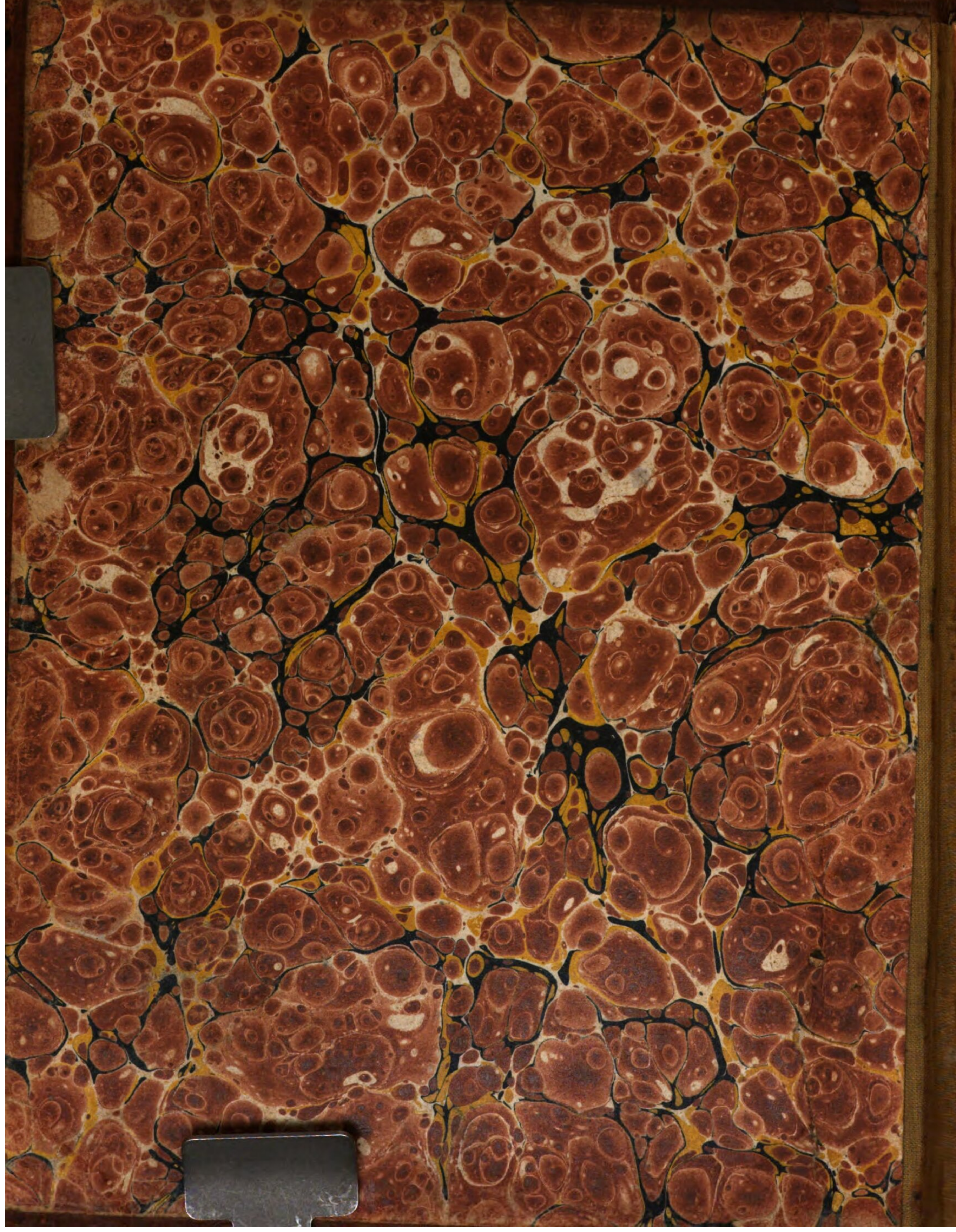
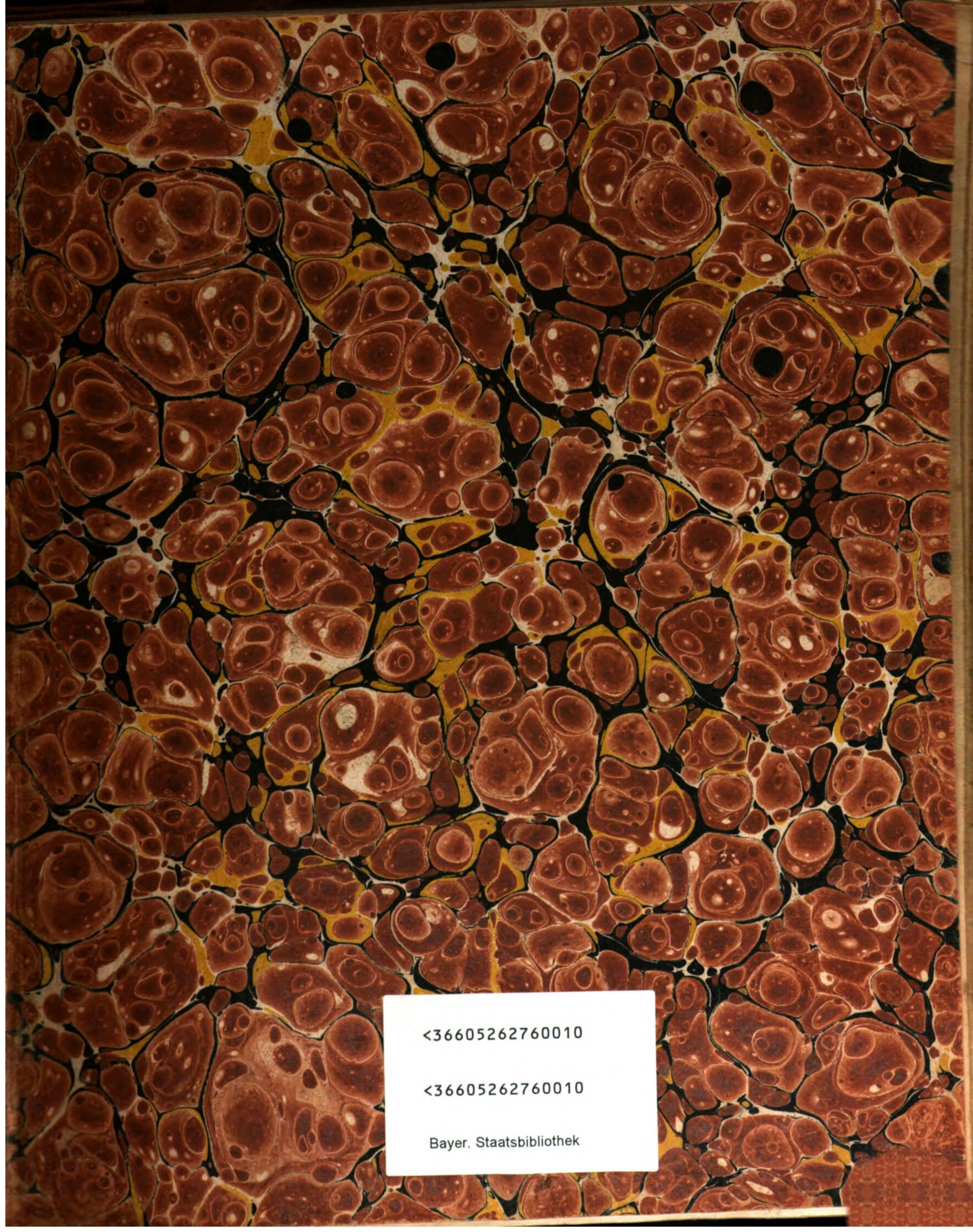








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A
GENERAL COLLECTION
OF THE
BEST AND MOST INTERESTING
VOYAGES AND TRAVELS
IN ALL PARTS OF THE WORLD;
MANY OF WHICH ARE NOW FIRST TRANSLATED INTO ENGLISH.
DIGESTED ON A NEW PLAN.

BY JOHN PINKERTON,
AUTHOR OF MODERN GEOGRAPHY, &c. &c.

ILLUSTRATED WITH PLATES.

VOLUME THE SECOND.

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OF
VOYAGES AND TRAVELS.

THE VOYAGE OF DON MANOEL GONZALES, (LATE MERCHANT) OF THE CITY OF LISBON IN PORTUGAL, TO GREAT BRITAIN: CONTAINING AN HISTORICAL, GEOGRAPHICAL, TOPOGRAPHICAL, POLITICAL, AND ECCLESIASTICAL ACCOUNT OF ENGLAND AND SCOTLAND; WITH A CURIOUS COLLECTION OF THINGS PARTICULARLY RARE, BOTH IN NATURE AND ANTIQUITY.

TRANSLATED FROM THE PORTUGUESE MANUSCRIPT.

(From the Harleian Collection, Vol. I. p. 9.)

CHAPTER I.—*Containing the Reasons of the Author's Voyage to England, &c.*

IN my infancy, my parents, being on both sides descended from new Christians, to appear more devout and attached to the established church, and so the better to screen themselves from the eye of the Portuguese inquisition, put me on the habit of a jesuit, and determined to breed me a scholar at least, if not a father of that society. In consequence of this resolution, I, as soon as age would permit, was sent to their public school of St. Antoaon, or St. Anthony the Great, at Lisbon, where not only languages, but all the liberal sciences are taught; and in a few years was to determine, whether I would enter into the society, or succeed to my father's business of a merchant, who then was declining, both with age and infirmities of body. My tutor laid close siege to my affections, well knowing that, as then I was the only surviving child of my parents, all their substance (and they were accounted rich) would center with me in their society for ever, could I be persuaded to become a jesuit: to whom I had almost yielded; till my mother interposing, with solid reasons convinced me, that for the present it would be better, both for her and myself, to enter into partnership with my father, alledging that I was not yet so capable to judge how an ecclesiastical life, under vows of poverty, chastity, and obedience, might consist with my growing inclinations and propensity of nature; that as the whole paternal estate would be seized on for their own use, upon my father's death, she must be ruined, or become obsequious

to the society for a mean subsistence, or perchance be obliged to end her days in a monastic confinement: and again, that should I happen to give them any provocation, or break their orders or rules, I might be unjesuited, expelled their society, and excluded both from my inheritance, and all means of living. And then, she added, that if in after-life my inclinations continued, when youth was conquered, and the world could yield me no pleasure, I might then do as I pleased; and it would yet be time enough to retire.

Thus advised, I no longer appeared at St. Anthony's, nor in my student's dress; yet my bookish inclination continued: But the course of my studies was changed, for instead of Aristotle's Philosophy, School Divinity, and Casuistry, I now relished nothing but Voyages, Travels, and Geography; and such other books as would lead me into a just notion of the world, and assist me in that state of life I then had just entered into.

As for languages, I had been very happy in taking them at school; so that I was at no loss in reading authors of diverse nations, except the English: for though the English factory at Lisbon is both the richest and the largest, and there is also an English college, an English nunnery, and two Irish colleges, and a nunnery of that nation also, who speak the English tongue; and I may add, though our greatest dealings in the mercantile way are with the subjects of Great Britain, none of the natives endeavour to teach or learn their language. Therefore my next step towards obtaining true ideas of a nation I, in all probability, was to deal with during my life, was to search not only for Portuguese and Spanish, but for French and Italian authors; yet I could find none in any of these languages, that are any other than mere superficial accounts, and, in my opinion, no way capable to convey just ideas of so deserving a people, nor sufficient to instruct a foreigner how to manage an advantageous commerce with them. For so long as we are kept ignorant of any country, and traffic with its natives only by factors of their own nation, settled among us, we must take only what they please to import, and at their own times and price, to our own great loss: whereas a merchant, that is thoroughly acquainted with the product, manufacture, and genius of the nations he traffics with, has the advantage to supply himself with the best commodities, in the best seasons, and at the cheapest rates. Consequently,

I, resolving to merchandize with Great Britain, resolved also first to learn the language, and then to make a voyage to the island itself. I soon made myself master of as much of the English tongue, as to enable me to attempt my intended voyage, without the incumbrance and the accidents that often befall gentlemen, who are obliged to trust all to an interpreter. Having gained my parents' consent, I embarked with their blessing, on board the packet, on the 23d of April, being St. George's day, commonly called the patron of England; and, after a pleasant voyage of seven days, we arrived safe at Falmouth, the 30th of April 1730, N. S.

CHAPTER II.—*A Chorographical Description of England*.*

BEING thus accompanied and instructed, it was to be my peculiar care to improve my journey to the uses I first intended, at my departure from Lisbon; and, in particular, to render it, for the future, subservient to my mercantile way of life: Therefore I began to take minutes of the soil, produce, and manufactures of every county through

* In the original this is the ninth chapter, seven chapters being filled with a hasty and imperfect history of England, which can nowise interest the reader.

which we passed; and made my particular observations on the genius of the people, their different methods of dealing; and distinguished the several cities, towns, and villages, which are most remarkable for trade and navigation; of all which, take the following true, though rude and unpolished account.—I begin with Cornwall, the county in which I landed.

Cornwall is the most western county of England, and is so washed by the sea on the north, south, and west, and the river Tamer on the east, that it is a perfect peninsula shaped like a horn. I presently found the people of this county valued themselves upon some pretensions above the other part of the nation, which I was informed was their ability in wrestling, and strength of body; their having most of the old British blood in their families; and their peculiar honour of giving title of Duke without creation to the eldest son of the King of Great Britain.

This is not the most fruitful part of England, the soil being for the most part mountainous, thin, and rocky underneath: yet the vallies are fat with corn and good pasture; the hills are rich in tin and copper mines; and they every where abound in wild fowls, especially the dainty woodcock. Nor must I forget their produce of eringo, samphire, fine slate, and marble. But their chief metal and manufacture is tin. When the ore is brought above ground in the stone, it is broke with hammers, and then carried to the stamping mills, which make it ready for other mills, whereby it is ground to powder. After it is washed and cleared from earth, &c. it is melted at the blowing-houses into pigs of three or four hundred weight, marked with the owner's name, and the value is set upon it at the coining-house, where it is assayed, to know what it is worth. The times for coining or making it, are Midsummer and Michaelmas; and for such as have not their tin then ready, there is a post-coinage at Lady-day and Christmas. The stamp is, the seal of the duchy of Cornwall. The tanners are regulated by Stannary laws, so called from *stannum*, the Latin word for tin; and the trials of their causes are by juries, returned by the mayors of the stannary towns; for which purpose, courts are held by the Lord Warden of the stannaries, who has also a deputy. When all the legal duties are satisfied, the tinner may sell his tin where he will; only, if the King, or the Duke of Cornwall, have a mind to be purchasers, they have a right of pre-emption.

The coinage towns are Lescard, Lestwithiel, Truro, Helston, and Penfance; and the tanners are reckoned at least 100,000.

The *mundic*, in which the tin lies as in its bed, yields such a quantity of *lapis calaminaris*, for making brasse, that instead of importing copper and brasse, which yearly heretofore did amount to 100,000*l.* they now export as much, if not more.

In this county also is carried on a great trade for pilchards, which are caught between July and November, of which the merchants export vast quantities to foreign markets, and for which they fit them by fuming, pressing, and pickling: These are salted but not gutted, the entrails being reckoned the best part; and, after having been piled in heaps in a cellar for ten days, and pressed, to drain off the superfluous moisture of the blood and salt, they are barrelled up with pickle, for France; but without it, for Spain, Italy, and other hotter countries.

We pass through this county into Devonshire, travelling eastward; which being not so much encompassed with the sea, is of a more pure air; and both the roads are better, and the soil more fruitful; though Devonshire has many both hills and woods.

Its commodities are corn, cattle, wool, &c. and its manufactures, kerfies, ferges, druggets, perpetuanas, long-ells, shalloons, narrow cloths, &c. as also bonelace.

That part called the South-hams is famous for its noble rough cyder : In other parts of it mines of tin have been formerly discovered in such abundance, that in King John's time the coinage of Devonshire was set to farm for 100*l.* a-year, when Cornwall paid but 66*l.* 18*s.* 4*d.* ; and it has four stannary towns, with as many stannary courts, and towns of coinage ; which are Plympton, Tavistock, Ashburton, and Chagford ; but there is very little tin dug in this country now.

Veins of loadstone are found here, which I was told, a learned naturalist says generally run east and west, contrary to the received opinion, that the loadstone gave a northerly direction ; because its natural position in the mine is supposed to be north and south. Here are quarries of good stone for building, and also of slate for covering houses ; and of the latter great quantities are exported.

Proceeding still eastward, we entered the pleasant and fruitful county of Dorset, or Dorsetshire, which not only produceth great plenty of corn, pasture, cattle, wild fowl and fish, but hemp and flax ; and great quantities of cloth are made here, both woollen and linen. Nor can any shire match its plenty of excellent stone in the quarries at Portland and Purbeck, (in the last of which marble has been dug up sometimes) ; and from Blackmore Forest may be brought sufficient timber to serve the whole county : And what a conveniency this is to the inhabitants, appears, from the elegance of the buildings, not only of the gentlemen's seats, but in their towns. Many kinds of earth, that are useful, are dispersed up and down the county : particularly, the best tobacco pipe-clay, which, as I was told, would sell at London for 30*s.* a-ton.

From hence we travelled into Somersetshire, so called from its being the warmest county in the whole island of Britain. It is a very rich, plentiful, populous and pleasant county, famous among the graziers for its large sheep and oxen ; and among merchant-adventurers, for its commodious havens. But the roads in winter are very foul and bad for travellers.

It abounds with grain of all kinds, of which it supplies home and foreign markets with vast quantities. Its hills afford mines of coal, lead, and copper. Wood thrives here, as well as in any shire in the kingdom ; and teasles (a sort of thistles used by the cloth-dressers) grow scarce any where else. Ocre is dug up, on and about Mendip hills ; and of *lapis calaminaris* (without which, and copper, there is no making of brass) more is dug up here than in all the kingdom besides. As this county is rich in pasture, no wonder it yields such great quantities of cheese, of which the best and biggest in England are made at Cheddar, and reckoned as good as Parmesan ; and it is worthy both the observation and imitation of such as desire to excel in this branch of trade, that the whole milk of the parish is, by the agreement of the parishioners, preserved for the making of it. Its oxen are as large as those of Lancashire and Lincolnshire ; and the grain of the flesh is said to be finer. Its vales feed and fatten a prodigious number of sheep, and of the largest size. Its mastiff dogs are the boldest of all others of the kind at baiting the bull, a sport in which the ruder sort of people among them, and some of the low bred gentry, take perhaps too much delight, as well here, as in other parts of this nation.

All sorts of cloth is manufactured here ; as broad and narrow kerseys, druggets, serges, duroys and shalloons, together with stockings and buttons ; and in the south-east parts of the shire are made great quantities of linen. The value of the woollen manufacture alone here, in the first hands, has been rated at a million a-year ; and if a calculation was made of its other manufactures : and its produce by mines, tillage, feeding, grazing, dairies, &c. it would undoubtedly exceed any county of the kingdom in riches, both natural and acquired, Yorkshire not excepted ; due allowance being made for

for the difference in extent. As to foreign trade, surely no shire but Middlesex will compare with one that has the city of Bristol to boast of; not to mention the coasting trade in the little ports of Bridgewater and Minhead.

We then entered Wiltshire, the northern part of which is full of pleasant risings, and watered with clear streams. It was once overspread with woods, which are now in a manner quite destroyed. The soil of this part of the country being clay, is consequently troublesome sometimes to travellers; but here is a great variety of delightful prospects, to make them amends. And my tutor told me, that a good author of their own made this remark of Wiltshire: "That an ox, left to himself, would, of all England, chuse to live in the north of this county, a sheep in the south part of it, and a man in the middle between both; as partaking of the pleasure of the plain, and the plenty of the deep country." The soil of the vale is very fruitful, and affords great quantity of as good cheese as any in England; and though that of the hills is in some places chalky, and barren enough, yet its cheapness makes it beneficial to the neighbouring farmers. I have been told on the spot, that on the downs betwixt Sandy-lane and Marlborough, and between the Devizes and Salisbury, hundreds of acres have been rented at a groat an acre *per annum*. But the numerous flocks of sheep fed there turn much more to the profit of the proprietors. The abundance of wool which these sheep produce, invited the inhabitants to fall very much into the clothing trade; and the best broad cloths, both white and dyed, in England, are made in the west and north parts of this county, and indeed, in the south and east parts too, but not in such quantities.

Fuel is not very plenty in this county, which has no coal pits, nor indeed much wood: 'Tis productive, however, of all sorts of grain, especially wheat.

From Wiltshire we departed for Hampshire or Hantshire, by some called the county of Southampton. This is the county where I saw, what my tutor had before told me, the tract of land, called New Forest, which was enlarged by William the Conqueror at the destruction of several towns and villages, and 36 parishes, being computed 50 miles in compass; and became remarkable for the death of two of his sons and a grandson, who lost their lives strangely in this forest.

The air of this county is most pure and piercing, especially the downs, of which there is a ridge that runs almost athwart it, and affords plenty of game. The soil is various as to its fertility, the hilly parts being barren, like other downs, and fit only for sheep; but the lower grounds are fruitful in corn and herbage. It produces great quantities of all manner of grain, particularly wheat and barley, with which it supplies the flourishing markets of Farnham, Basingstoke, and Reading; and their teams of horses, many of which are fit for the best coach in the kingdom, shew the wealth of the farmer. The arable ground, though very stony, is fruitful; for the stones lie loose upon the soil: and those who are well skilled in agriculture affirm, that they keep it warm, and that therefore, the taking them away would do more hurt than good. This county is particularly famous for its honey, with which they make most excellent mead and metheglin. Hampshire bacon is allowed by all to be the best in England, the swine being supplied with acorns in plenty, from the New Forest, and other woods, in which they are suffered to run at large: And the delicacy of their flesh is attributed to their not being pent up in styes. Kersey and cloth are made here; and though not in so great plenty as in Wiltshire, Somersetshire, and Gloucestershire, yet there is enough made, not only for home consumption, but for a foreign trade. Its sea-coasts furnish oysters, lobsters, and other salt water fish. And indeed, both for profit and pleasure, there is not a more inviting county in Great Britain.

Adjoining

Adjoining to Hampshire is the inland county of Berks; whose air is generally healthy and sweet; the soil fertile enough, where 'tis cultivated; and the whole county, which is one of the most pleasant in England, is well stored with cattle and timber, particularly oak and beech, in the western parts, and in Windsor Forest; which also abounds with wild fowl, and other game; as its rivers Thames and Kennet, the one on the north, the other on the south side of it, do with fish, especially fine large trout and cray-fish. It has been observed, that land is dearer here, than in other parts the same distance from London. The chief manufactures of this county are woollen cloth, sail cloth, and malt; their being great crops of barley in the west part of the county, particularly the vale of White-horse, so named from the bare side of a chalky hill representing that animal, which the inhabitants once a-year, about mid-summer, take some pains in trimming, to keep it to its shape and colour, and then conclude the day with mirth. 'Tis supposed by some, that the ground there was formed into this figure by the Saxons, who had the White-horse for their arms.

Having regaled ourselves four days with the fowl and delicious fish of Berkshire, we passed into Surrey, which I could not find to be remarkable for any particular trade or manufacture, excepting the corn market at Croydon, and the several branches of trade carried on in the borough of Southwark: but as that borough is contiguous to London, I shall remark their trade together. In general, I observe this to be a healthy, pleasant county; and therefore it boasts of several royal palaces, and many seats of the nobility and gentry. But the air, as well as the soil, of the middle and extreme parts is vastly different, the air being mild in the latter, which is very fruitful in corn and hay, with a fine mixture of woods and fields, especially on the south about Holmsdale, and on the north towards the Thames; but the air is bleak in the heart of the county, which, except a delightful spot indeed here and there, is all open sandy ground, and barren heath: for which reason, the county is not unaptly compared to a coarse cloth with a fine list or hem. In some places there are long ridges of hills or downs, with warrens for rabbits and hares, and parks for deer; and its rivers, the chief of which, besides the Thames, are the Mole, the Wey, and the Wandle, abound with fish. And the chief commodities of this county, besides its corn, are box-wood, walnuts, and fullers-earth, which last is sold at a groat a bushel at the pits near Ryegate, and is sent up to London for the use of the woollen manufactures all over England.

N.B.—This earth is prohibited exportation by the same laws, and under the same penalties as wool itself.

Our tour through Surrey was pretty agreeable in regard to the many fine seats which we met with, but I was more pleased to turn off into Sussex, a maritime county upon the English channel; whose downs near the coast are charming, and its vallies, or the Wild of Sussex, as it is commonly called, very plentiful, especially in oats. The downs are very high green hills, well known to travellers, especially such as deal in wool or sheep; there being great numbers bred here, whose wool, which is very fine, is too often exported clandestinely to France by farmers and jobbers, who are called owlers. Many parts of the downs being a fat chalky soil, are, on that account, very fruitful, both in corn and grass. The middle part of the county is delightfully chequer'd with meadows, pastures, groves, and corn-fields, that produce wheat and barley. The north quarter is shaded with woods, from which they make abundance of charcoal; and they supply timber for the navy docks, and fuel for the iron works, there being not only plenty of ore on the east side towards Kent, but many great forges, furnaces, and watermills, for both cast and wrought iron, which, though it is said to be more brittle than the Spanish, yet cannon are cast with it; and the best gunpowder in the world is made

made in this county. A great deal of its meadow ground is turned into ponds and pools, to drive hammer-mills by the flashes. Here we were regaled with the delicious bird, called the wheat-ear, for which this county is particularly famous. 'Tis no bigger than a lark, and is taken by digging a hole in the ground, into which they put a snare of horse-hair, and then cover the hole, very near, with the turf, turning the grassy side downwards; this bird being so very timorous, that the shadow even of a cloud frightens them into these little cavities. They are so fat, that, when caught, they cannot be carried many miles without being tainted: and even in plucking them they must be handled as little as possible: and they are fatest when the wheat is ready to be cut down.

I was told, that in winter the roads were so deep in some parts, that they were obliged to draw their coaches with oxen.

We at last arrived in Kent, which is the most eastern county on the English channel, and of which I had retained great notions, from the account my tutor had given of its having been an entire kingdom of itself in the time of the heptarchy; and how the Kentish men obliged William the Conqueror to confirm their ancient privileges. This county stands as it were in a corner, and may properly be divided into three parts, according to the nature of its soil; viz. the downs, which may be said to have health without wealth; the marshy parts, which have wealth without health; and the middle, which enjoy both health and wealth. But,

The county, in general, abounds with plantations of hops, fields of corn, pastures, and woods of oak, beech, and chesnuts, and fine orchards of cherries and pippins; and, about Boxley, Fooks Cray, North Cray, &c. are many woods of birch, from whence the broom-makers are supplied, who live in Kent Street, Southwark. The cattle here, of all sorts, are reckoned larger than they are in the neighbouring counties; and the Weald of Kent is noted for its large bullocks, as well as for its great timber for shipping. Here are several parks of fallow deer, and warrens of greyish rabbits. Here are mines of iron, and pits of marle and chalk; woad, and madder, for dyers; wool, flax, saintfoyn; and on the cliffs, between Folkestone and Dover, is plenty of samphire.

From Kent we crossed the water at Greenwich, and arrived at Limehouse, in the county of Middlesex. This is but a small county, but pleasant, fruitful, and dignified with the city of London, the capital of the nation, and the city of Westminster, which is the seat of the British monarchs. It abounds with rich and pleasant villages; and I may in one word compleat its character, when I declare it to be my opinion, that here are more ingenious men, and more money spent in costly apparel, eating, drinking, plays, operas, and other diversions and gaities of life, than in any other tract of land of the same circumference in the whole world besides.

As to the produce, manufactures, and trade of this county, I am informed, that the whole county almost is cantoned out into corn or pasture, and garden grounds near the city. The manufactures are chiefly confined to the city or suburbs, of which hereafter: But it is amazing to see in the neighbouring fields the immense tale of bricks and tiles which are daily making for the supply of new buildings. The trade being wholly carried on in the port of London, it will be more properly remarked when I give an account of that great and opulent city.

Having staid some time in London, we proceeded on our journey cross Bow-bridge, which divides Middlesex from Essex, a county so called, as has been before related, from the East Saxons, by whom it was inhabited.

The air is generally temperate; but near the sea and the Thames, among the hundreds, it is moist; and the inhabitants are subject to agues. It abounds with corn, cattle, wood, and wild-fowl; and the north parts of it, especially about Saffron-Walden, produce great quantities of saffron; the best in the world: The soil in some places thereabouts being so rich, that after three crops of saffron it yields good barley, for near twenty years together, without dunging. In other parts it produces hops.

It is particularly observed of this county, that, generally speaking, the soil is best where the air is worst, and *à contra*; for the parts next to the sea and the Thames among the fenny hundreds, which are so agreeable, abound with rich pastures and corn lands; whereas the inland parts, though healthy, are many of them gravelly and sandy, and not so good either for corn or grass, but more productive of furze, broom, brakes; yet there are others of clay and loam soils, which bear excellent corn and pasturage. No county affords provisions of all sorts in greater plenty than this, both by land and water, for the supply not only of its own inhabitants, but of the city of London. Many good and serviceable horses are bred in the marshes. Abundance of fat oxen and sheep are also brought from thence to their markets; and corn is weekly sent up to that city in great quantities. Great dairies of cows are also kept here, which bring forth calves admired for the whiteness and delicacy of their flesh, insomuch that, *As good as an Essex calf*, is a common proverb, with the citizens, to denote what they like, as is the other saying, *As valiant as an Essex lion*, to ridicule what they despise.

About forty-five miles north-east of London, in this county, is carried on the great manufacture of Colchester baize, so famous throughout Spain, Portugal, and their American plantations; which are brought to London in waggons containing eighty or ninety hundred weight each, drawn with six horses only; the roads being so very hard and level. N.B. The Essex farmers buy lean calves at Smithfield market, London, and having fattened them, bring them to the same place to sell again.

Hertfordshire is an inland county, and abounds in grass, wood, and corn fields, covered with loose stones. As there is little or no manufacture in this shire, which is full of maltsters, millers, dealers in corn, &c. so their trade would be inconsiderable, was it not for its being every way a great thoroughfare, and for its neighbourhood to London, which makes the chief market-towns to be much frequented, for the sale of wheat, barley, and all sorts of grain, not only the growth of this, but several other counties. Wheat, barley and malt are its chief commodities. And the barley of Hertfordshire is so much prized in London, that many hundred quarters are sold by that name in a year, of which not a grain was ever sown in this county.

From Hertfordshire we travelled into Bedfordshire, which we found to be a fruitful country; especially the north parts, which yield plentiful crops of plump, white, and strong barley, which, made into malt, is frequently sold in London, and other parts, for that of Hertfordshire. It has forests and parks well stored with deer, fat pastures with cattle, produces great quantities of butter and cheese, with fuller's earth, and woad for dying, and has plenty of poultry. Its chief manufactures are bone-lace, and straw-hats.

The woad, for which this county is famous, is the plant with which the ancient Britons used to dye their bodies, that they might appear the more terrible to their enemies; but rather, as some think, to preserve them from the inclemency of the weather. It is cultivated here after this manner: it is sown every year, and the old woad, except what they save for seed, is plucked up. The beginning of March is the season

season for sowing it, and the middle of May for cropping it. It is best in a dry year; but more plentiful in a wet one. It is cropped commonly four or five times a-year as it comes up; but the first crop is best, and every one after it gradually worse. When gathered it is immediately ground small in a mill, till it becomes fit to ball; and when balled, it is laid upon hurdles to dry; and then ground into powder. After this it is spread on a floor, and watered, which is called *couching*; and then it is turned every day till it is perfectly dry and mouldy, which is called *silvering*. After silvering, it is weighed, and put into a bag containing two hundred weight, and then sent to the dyer to try it, who sets a price on it according to its goodness. The best is commonly valued at 18l. a ton.

Adjoining to Bedfordshire is the county of Bucks, taking its name from beech trees, in which it abounds, as I am told, more than any other part of England. Consequently this shire is diversified with pleasant woods and fine streams, which render it a desirable country; besides the quality of its air, which is generally good, especially on the Chiltern-hills, so that there is not a better in the whole island: and even in the vale, where it is not altogether so good, it is much better than in other low dirty counties. Its chief rivers are the Thames, the Ouse, and the Colne. The soil, being generally marle or chalk, is very fruitful, especially in corn; and though it is stony on the Chiltern-hills, yet amidst those stones there come up good crops of choice wheat and barley. It abounds too with physical plants, perhaps more than any other county. As the land in the vale is proper for grazing, so it abounds with cattle. There are some graziers here, who perhaps have 4 or 500l. a-year in land of their own, and yet rent three times as much, which they keep all in their own management: and it is very certain, that one single meadow, called Buryfield, in the manor of Quarendon, was let not many years ago for 800l. a-year. But the soil here, though so good to feed sheep, is too rich to breed them; and it is common to give 10l. for a ram to breed. The sheep of the vale of Alesbury are the biggest in England, and their mutton is very good; yet whoever has eaten of that of Banstead, Bagshot, and Tunbridge, must own there is better. The beef here is so good, that Buckinghamshire bread and beef was formerly a proverb; meaning, that the former was the finest, and the latter the fattest in England.

The manufactures of this shire are paper and bone-lace; the former made at Wycomb mills, and the latter at Newport-Pagnel, where the lace is very little inferior to that of Flanders. And here I can't forbear remarking how far the English degenerate from their native capacity of improving manufactures, in the particular case of paper, which, notwithstanding they have greater plenty of the best rags, they commonly make out of old rotten materials, the shavings and cuttings of paper, till it will not bear the weight of the press; and sell their best rags abroad so cheap, that the Dutch, French and Genoese, are able to import paper, made chiefly of English rags, cheaper and always better than any that is made in England, which is a great oversight.

My tutor, who was an Oxonian, having brought us to the confines of Oxfordshire, assured me that it would be worth my while to see and spend a few days in the famous city and university of Oxford; to which I readily condescended, but shall refer my minutes of that agreeable seat of learning to its proper place; and, at present, I only observe, that Oxfordshire enjoys a sweet healthful air, and is a very plentiful country; for the plains are judiciously disposed into corn-fields and meadows, and its few hills exalt their heads with lofty woods, and harbour great plenty of all sorts of game. I did not meet with any particular manufacture in the whole county.

From Oxford we departed for Gloucestershire, which abounds with all sorts of grain, cattle, fowl and game, and every thing that other counties produce, and altogether as

excellent in their kinds, especially bacon and cyder; and its rivers afford as great plenty of fish, especially salmon from the Severn, together with lampreys and conger-eels. But, to give a truer idea of this county, we shall consider it in three parts, according to its usual division, viz.

1. Cotefwould, the hilly part of the county, bordering on Warwickshire, Oxfordshire, and Berkshire. It is not very fertile, and lies exposed to the winds and cold, so that its corn is slow in coming out of the ground; from whence arose the proverb in this county, *It is as long in coming as Cotefwould barley*: but then it is healthy, and feeds a multitude of sheep, whose wool is exceeding fine, and so improved by the inhabitants, that they may be reckoned as golden fleeces to the county, many of whose towns are so eminent for the cloathing manufacture, that they have no others fit to be named with it. It has been computed that before English wool began to be clandestinely exported to France, fifty thousand cloths were made yearly in this shire, which are estimated at ten pounds a cloth, the fine with the coarse; and the number of sheep kept in the county, of which most are fed in this part of it, is computed at four hundred thousand. It is said, that the fine Spanish wool came originally from the Cotefwould sheep; one of the English kings, either Richard I. or Edward I. having made a present of the breed to the then King of Spain.

2. The Vale, which is the middle part of the county, and spreads into a fruitful plain lying on both sides of the Severn, is a quite different clime from the Cotefwould, where, if it be true that there are eight months in the year winter, and four too cold for summer, here it is certain are eight months summer, and four too warm to deserve the name of winter. It is in this part of the county that excellent cheese is made, which is the fattest and most agreeable to the palate of any in England; though that which is so called in London, comes, for the most part out of Wiltshire; the real cheese of this county going more to Bristol than to London.

3. The forest of Dean, which is the most west part of the county, lies between the Severn and the Wye. It was heretofore covered with wood, and contained thirty thousand acres of it, being twenty miles long, and ten broad; and it was then such a harbour for robbers, especially towards the banks of the Severn, that in the reign of Henry VI. an act of Parliament was made on purpose to restrain them. But since so many rich veins of iron have been discovered, and forges established here by acts of Parliament for working it, which require vast quantities of wood to support them, the woods are not only reduced to narrower bounds, but many towns and villages have been built in the forest, as is usual where any manufacture is carried on; insomuch, that here are three hundreds, twenty-three parish churches, three market-towns, one mayor-town, one castle, and one abbey. Where the woods are still preserved, the oaks are reckoned the best in England; the soil, which is a wet clay, being proper for the growth of them. The oak timber of this forest was anciently so famous, that most of that employed in building of English ships was fetched from hence: and this was so well known to the Spaniards, that their invincible armada, which was sent in 1558 to invade England, was ordered expressly to destroy this forest, in hopes thereby of quite ruining the English navigation. Formerly, I was told, the valleys of this county, which now are with more profit to the owners turned into orchards, were full of vineyards. In a word, this county abounds in corn, wood, wool, iron, steel, cyder, salmon, and cheese.

We still kept within land, and arrived in Monmouthshire, which was formerly a Welsh county. Its air is temperate and healthy, the east parts are woody, and the west parts are a little mountainous; but in the general it is fruitful enough, and the

hills feed cattle, sheep, and goats, while the valleys produce plenty of grafs and corn, especially the latter, of which here is as good wheat as in any county of the kingdom, and yet lands never sell for more than twenty-one years purchase. The Bristol merchants send their ships hither to take off great quantities of its corn for Portugal and other countries. Coals are so cheap here, that it is common to see a good fire in the meanest cottage; for a horse load costs but 2d. at the mouth of the pit.

The principal manufacture of the county is flannel. The gentlemen here generally speak English, though the current language of the vulgar is Welsh. The natives were formerly reckoned a valiant and courageous people, and the most skilful archers of all the Welsh borderers; yet they were cruelly harrassed after the Normans came into England by the lords of the marshes, to whom several of the English kings granted all they could conquer here for their own.

Our next route was into Herefordshire, which, they say, has also been a Welsh county; and its prodigious quantities of orchards and fruit trees, the very hedges being full of them, have obtained to this county the agreeable name of the Orchard of England. This county abounds with all things necessary for life; but more especially with corn, wool, salmon, and cyder; and its wool and cyder is generally counted the best in England; yet this cyder, so much admired, is made of the red-streak-apple, which is scarce eatable; and grows no where so well as in this county.

After a short stay we arrived in Worcestershire, whose air and soil are so kindly, that it is inferior to none of its neighbours, either for health or pleasure, the former being sweet all over the county, the latter rich both in tillage and pasturage, the hills being covered with flocks of sheep, and the valleys abounding in corn and rich meadows. Neither is it less happily accommodated with water; for it has in all parts very fine rivers, as the Severn, Stour, Avon, Teme, &c. which furnish it plentifully with fish of the most delicious kinds. The noble Severn directs the course of its rich stream from north to south through the very middle of the county; and the Avon from Warwickshire runs into that river through the south part of the shire. Its commodities besides corn, cattle, cheese, wool, cloth, stuffs, cyder, lampreys, &c. are perry and salt, and the latter such in a peculiar manner. Its perry is made of pears, and the best kind of it is very palatable, especially if it be three or four years old, when it is racy and spiritous. Hops are lately very much cultivated in this shire, which commodity, and their salt, are sent down the Severn in a sort of vessels called troughs, of which at least twenty are constantly employed to Bristol, Bridgewater, and other places, Somersetshire and Dorsetshire being chiefly supplied with the latter by this traffic.

Still returning to the north-east we entered Warwickshire, whose air is excellent, the soil rich, and its principal commodities are corn, malt, wool, wood, iron, coal, and cheese.

'Tis divided into two parts, the Felden, and the Woodland; that on the south side, and this on the north side of the Avon; by which it is certain, that as the former was a champaign, the other was a woody country. The first afforded all the pasture, and corn grounds; and the second was of little use, besides fuel; but the iron works, in the adjacent countries, have so consumed the wood, that they have long since made way for the plough; and at present, what by marle, and other good contrivances, all this part yields abundance of corn; so that the Felden, which used to supply the other with corn, cheese, and butter, is now turned, in a great measure, into pasturing. The soil of both is good, and produces excellent corn and cheese, especially the latter, which has so much the preference, that the very name of it given to that of other counties, which is not so good, is enough to carry it off.

Of late years this county has been also distinguished by a silk manufactory of ribbons and other small wares at Coventry ; as also for hard wares at Birmingham ; whose proprietors have their warehouses at London.

The next county eastward is Northamptonshire. Here I found the soil very fruitful both in tillage and pasturage, but it is not well stocked with wood, nor (by reason of its distance from the sea) can it be supplied with coal as duly as other counties, so that winter fuel, as I was informed here, is exceeding dear. It abounds with sheep and other cattle, wool, pigeons, and saltpetre ; and they say it has been observed, that there is less waste ground in this than in any other county of England, there being but one barren heath in it, and that near Whittering. 'Tis a plain level country, and so populous, that from some places may be seen no less than thirty steeples at one view. Its manufactures are serges, tammies, shalloons, boots and shoes.

Our next progress was into Huntingdonshire, which I was informed, having formerly been a very woody country, and harbouring much game, was so called from its being most proper for hunting. It still abounds with willows, marshy on the north-east side, but plentiful of pasture ; and though it must be allowed inferior, both as to the soil and produce, to many other counties, it is pleasant, diversified with hills, and yields plenty of corn and cattle.

Keeping still to the east we passed into Cambridgeshire, in which is seated another famous university of the English nation. The air and soil of this county are very different, according to its different parts : the air is very good about Cambridge, and all the south and east parts, but damp and foggy, and therefore not so wholesome, in the isle of Ely, and other northern low watery tracts, that are part of the great level of the fens, called Bedford-level, and often subject to inundations. The soil, however, in general, is very fruitful ; the dry barren parts being improved in some places from five to thirty shillings an acre by the cinque-foil (that grass which the French call Saint-foin, because they brought it from the Holy Land) and the low spongy parts, by draining the fens. Its chief commodities are excellent corn, especially barley, of which they make vast quantities of malt, cattle, butter, saffron, coleseed, hemp, fish, and wild-fowl. The principal manufactures of this county are paper and baskets.

N. B.—See an account of the university of Cambridge hereafter.

At last we arrived in the maritime county of Suffolk, looking to the northern ocean ; whose air is very clear and wholesome, sweet and pleasant, even near the sea-shore, because the beach is generally sandy and shelly, which shoots off the sea-water, and keeps it from stagnation and stinking mud. The physicians, as they told me, reckon it as good an air as any in the kingdom.

The soil is various ; that near the sea is sandy, and full of heaths, yet abounds with rye, pease, and hemp, and feeds great flocks of sheep. That called High Suffolk, or the Woodlands, which is the inner part of the country, though it abounds with wood, yet has a rich deep clay and marle, which produces good pasture, that feeds abundance of cattle. The part which borders on Essex and Cambridge likewise affords excellent pasture ; and about Bury and so to the north and north-west, 'tis fruitful in corn, except towards New-market, which is for the most part green heath. 'Tis said, that the feeding cattle and sheep on turnips, which practice has now obtained almost the general approbation of the English graziers and farmers, was an improvement first set on foot in this county.

Its chief commodities are butter and cheese, the latter of which is somewhat the worse for the sake of enriching the former ; but it is much the better for long voyages, by reason of its dryness, and the sea so mellows it, that it has been sold for twelve pence
a pound.

a pound. The butter, which is made here in great quantities, and conveyed to many parts of England, is incomparable; it is packed up in firkins, according to the statute, and sold in markets and fairs for all uses both by sea and land, but more particularly to the cheesemongers of London. Here also I met with some manufactures of woollen and linen cloth.

Keeping now to the sea-coast we entered the county of Norfolk, which has a greater variety of soil, than is, perhaps, in any other county, and in that respect it is called (justly enough) the representative of all England, for the best and worst of soils; but even the latter, *i. e.* fens and marshlands, and the sandy heaths, are exceeding profitable; the former affording rich pasture for cattle, and the latter feeding great flocks of hardy strong sheep, of a peculiar kind to this county, called Norfolks, and vast numbers of silver hair'd rabbits. The light, deep, and clay grounds, are very fruitful in rye and pease, wheat and barley; and near Walsingham, they produce saffron. On the banks of its rivers, and its rivulets, are many fine meadows and pastures; and near its towns are many springs, groves, and coppices: some villages are said to keep no less than five thousand sheep. The lord of every town orders how many, and what sort of sheep the people shall have, directs their walks both in winter and summer, where they shall be folded for the sake of their dung, and how they shall be driven from place to place. Its product consists chiefly in corn, wool, honey, and saffron; the best saffron growing near Walsingham: And the manufactures of this county are chiefly stuffs, crapes, and stockings.

Proceeding northerly, we came into Lincolnshire, which is usually divided into three parts, viz. Holland on the south-east side, Kesteven on the south-west, and Lindsey on the north, which last is much the biggest; for its division takes in all that lies north of Lincoln city, and of the Foss-Dyke, which King Henry I. cut betwixt the Witham and Trent.

The first is a soft marshy ground, abounding with rivers and fens, and has therefore a bad air.

The second has an air more wholesome, as it is less affected by the fogs from the fens; and a soil more fruitful.

The third is generally reckoned healthy, especially on the west side.

The inland country produces corn, the fens coleseed, and the richest pastures; so that their cattle are bigger than in any county except Somerset, which took a breed from thence about threescore years ago, and has much improved the size by their richer pastures. And their horses are reputed to be no ways inferior to the Yorkshire breed.

Once more we left the sight of the sea-shore, and entered the inland county of Leicester, which enjoys both a good air and a good soil, that produces wheat, barley, peas, and oats; but its most natural and plentiful crops are beans, especially in that part of Sparkingho hundred, which lies about the village, called from thence Barton in the beans, where they are so luxuriant, that towards harvest time, when I saw them, they looked like a forest. The Norfolkiens are not fonder of dumplings, than the Leicestrians are of beans; which though they are in other countries food only for horses or hogs, unless eaten when they are green, in this they are esteemed good for men all the year round. Perhaps they are more tender and sweeter here than in other places, for this reason in the very nature of things, viz. that where any grain thrives best, 'tis always the sweetest and wholesomest of the kind. The people have not only a pleasure of eating, but a profit of selling them to their neighbours, who indeed deride them by the name of *bean bellies*, and have a proverb which says, *shake a Leicestershire man*

man by the collar, and you shall hear the beans rattle in his belly; but the yeomen smile at what is said to rattle in their bellies, while they know good silver thereby rings in their pockets.

There are no manufactures in this county, except it be stockings, which has been of late much encouraged; so that the shepherd and husbandman engross almost all to themselves; for as the latter supplies other counties with its corn and pulse, the former sends its wool into many parts of England, which fetches them good money.

The great want of fuel, in the inland country especially, is supplied by a very rich coal mine, at a place called Cole Orton, from whence 'tis sold at good rates to the neighbouring counties.

Their sheep are of the Lincolnshire breed, somewhat bigger than those of Cambridge and Norfolk; and the country is pretty well stocked with deer, for which here are several parks.

Most of the gentlemen here are graziers, and in some places the latter are so rich, that they grow gentlemen, it being common here for graziers to rent farms in this county from 500l. to 2000l. a-year.

The horses bred, or rather fed here, are the largest in England, being generally the black sort for the coach and dray, of which great numbers are continually sent up to London.

Adjoining to Leicestershire on the north road is the county of Nottingham, which, excepting the large forest of Sherwood, is an exceeding fruitful place, especially on the south-east, and the west side is woody, and full of good coal. The chief commodities are cattle, corn, malt, wool, coal, wood, liquorice, cheese, butter, leather and tallow. It also yields marle of several sorts, and a stone not unlike alabaster, only softer; which, when burnt, makes a plaster harder than that of Paris, wherewith they generally floor their upper rooms. The chief manufactures are stockings, glass, and earthen wares; and 'tis noted for fine strong ale, a liquor made of malt and hops much admired by the English.

To the west of Nottinghamshire lies Derbyshire, an inland county, and according to its different parts, deserving of a different character; for the east and south parts, which are full of gentlemen's seats and parks, are well cultivated and fruitful in all kinds of grain, especially barley, which makes many of the inhabitants maltsters, who have a good trade both for their malt and ale. The west part on the other side of the Derwent is barren, consisting of nought but bleak hills and mountains, except some fields of oats, and is therefore called the Peak, from the Saxon word *Peaeland*, which signifies an eminence; nevertheless there is some grass on the hills, and plenty in the vales, which feed great flocks of sheep and other cattle; yet by reason of its subterraneous riches in mines and quarries, this tract is almost as profitable to the inhabitants as the other part; for its mountains and quarries yield great quantities of the best lead, antimony, mill-stones, scythe-stones, and grindstones, marble, alabaster, a coarse sort of chrystal, azure, spar, green and white vitriol, allum, pit-coal, and iron; for the forming of which, here are forges, where such quantities of wood are consumed every day, as well as what is used at the lead mines and coal delfs, that the country has very little, if any, left. This peak abounds with wonders or curiosities, which the inhabitants generally reduce to seven: viz. 1. The famous palace of the Duke of Devonshire, called *Chatsworth-house*. 2. *Mam-tor*, a wonderful mountain. 3. *Eden-hole*. 4. *Buxton-wells*. 5. *Weeding-well*, or *Tide's-well*. 6. *Pool's-hole*. 7. The devil's a—e, or peak's a—e.

From

From admiring the wonders of Derbyshire, we returned eastward, and crossed part of Nottinghamshire into the noted county of York, the largest county in England, or rather a county full of shires. But first, to write of it in general, I found that the commodities of Yorkshire are in a particular manner allum, jet, lime, liquorice, horses: Its manufactures, knives, bits, spurs, stockings, &c. But the greatest of all is cloth, with which it in a good measure supplies Germany and the north. The corn and cattle with which it abounds, are not mentioned, because these are what they have in common with other counties. Iron and lead mines have been in more plenty than of late years, though no less than 40,000 persons are employed in the iron manufactures, under about 600 master cutlers, who are incorporated by the stile of the cutlers of Hallamshire. And now in particular, this county is divided into three parts, or ridings, each of which is as large, if not larger than any ordinary county; which are distinguished by west, east, and north, from their situation with respect to the city of York, and contain, viz.

	Wapentakes or Hundreds.	Market towns.
The West riding	10	24
East riding	4	8
North riding	12	17
	<u>26</u>	<u>49</u>

And first of the West-riding; its air, though sharp, is generally reckoned more healthy, than that of the other two Ridings. The soil, on the west side of it, is hilly and stony, and therefore not very fruitful; though in the valleys, there is plenty of good meadow ground and pasture. But that part of it towards the river Ouse is a rich soil, producing wheat and barley, though not in so great plenty as oats, which are cultivated with success, even in its worst parts.

In this Riding are trees seldom found in other counties, as firs, yews, and chesnuts; and 'tis remarkable, not only for its many parks and chaces, but for mines of lime-stone for manure, and quarries of stone for building, and of another sort, whereof the people make allum; which is of a blueish colour, and will cleave like cornish slate. The mine lies deep, and requires great pains to dig up; but being calcined, 'tis made into allum by various percolations and boilings. This Riding is noted also for jet and liquorice, for fine horses and goats, besides other cattle; for making and curing legs of pork into hams, like the Portuguese and Westphalian; and for the manufactories of cloth and iron.

The East-riding is the smallest of the three, confined within the rivers Derwent, Ouse, Humber, and the German Ocean. Its south-east part, called the Wapentake of Holderness, is a fruitful spot; and the parts which lie on the sea-coast and the Derwent are rich, and full of towns; but the middle of this division is overspread with barren, sandy, dry, uninhabited woulds, which are called Yorkswould, being great downs and hills that produce some corn, and feed great numbers of black cattle, horses and sheep, whose fleeces may compare with those of Coteshould; but they are generally sent to the marshes to be fattened. The soil about these woulds abounds with chalk, flint, fire-stones, &c. and in divers parts of it there are mines of coal and free-stone. These woulds extend a great way into the wapentakes of Bainton, Buckcross, and Dickerings; and at the foot of them, near Bugthorp and Leppington, are found the stones called astroites, which are dug out of a blue clay on the banks of a rivulet between Bugthorp and the Woulds, though many of them are washed by the rains into the brook.

The

The air cannot be supposed to be the purest every where in this Riding, considering how great a part of it is encompassed by the sea and the Humber.

The North-riding is as it were the northern frontier of the two fore-mentioned ridings; extending along the coast from that called Robin Hood's Bay, on the north side of Flamborough-head, as far as Whitby, being bounded on the north with the river Tees, which separates it from Durham. It runs from the sea in a narrow tract of near sixty miles, as far as Westmoreland, and is bounded on the south and west with the Derwent and Ure, which part it from the east and west Ridings.

The east part of this country towards the ocean is called Blackmoor, *i. e.* a land black and mountainous, being all over rugged and unsightly, by reason of craggs, hills, and woods. The north-west part of it, which is of a large extent, and called Richmondshire, is almost one continued eminence, or ridge of craggy rocks, and vast mountains, the sides of which yield pretty good grafs here and there, and the bottoms and valleys are not unfruitful. The hills afford great store of lead, pit-coal, and brass; and in a charter of Edward IV. mention is made of a mineral or copper-mine near the very town of Richmond. On the tops of these mountains, as well as elsewhere, plenty of stones, like sea-cockles, are found in firm rocks and beds of lime-stone, sometimes at six or eight fathom under ground. The miners therefore call them run lime-stones, as supposing them to be produced by a more than ordinary heat, and a quicker fermentation than they allow to the production of the other parts of the quarry. The hills here towards Lancashire have a prospect so wild, solitary and unsightly, and all things are so still, that the neighbours have called some rivulets here Hellbecks, especially that at the head of the river Ure, which, with a *bridge* over it, of *one entire stone*, falls so deep, that it strikes one with horror to look down. There is safe harbour in this tract for goats, deer, and stags, which are very remarkable and extraordinary for their bulk and branchy heads. The river Ure rises here out of the west mountains, and runs through Wensdale, a valley well stocked with cattle and land.

Swaldale is another division of the Riding, being a dale so called from the river Swale, which runs through it, wherein Paulinus the Archbishop of York is said to have baptized 10,000 Saxons in a day. 'Tis a pretty broad, pleasant vale, with grafs enough, but it wants wood, for though there is a place near it called Swaldale forest, there are scarce any trees in it now, whatever there were formerly. Near it is Wensdale, a very rich fruitful valley stocked with vast herds of cattle, for which there is delicate pasture. The most woody forest in this Riding is that of Galtres, called, in Latin, *Galaterium Nemus*, which in some places is thick and shady, in others flat, wet and boggy. This forest in the reign of Edward III. extended itself, they say, to the very walls of York; and it must have been a place of some note in the reign of Henry VII. because it appears from a patent in Rymer's *Fœdera*, that he appointed his son Prince Henry warden of this forest.

Besides coals already mentioned, this Riding produces marble, allum, jet, and cop-peras. The allum is a mineral dug out of a rock, of the colour of slate at first, but, when burnt, it changes to a mere ruddy colour, and then it is steeped in pits of water dug for that purpose, after which 'tis boiled and clarified, as it comes to us. The chief allum-works here are carried on by the Duke and Dukes of Buckingham*, at Whitby, where was the greatest plenty of its mine.

As for jet, geat, or black amber, in Latin, *gagates*, though the name is given to the *agate*, 'tis very different from it, though some mistake it to be the same. 'Tis found

* Since dead.

in several places of this county by the sea-side, in the chinks and clefts of the rocks. 'Tis naturally of a reddish rusty colour, but when polished, 'tis a shining black.

Its copperas is extracted out of some of the earth that is dug out of the allum mines; for in searching for the allum earth, there arise veins of metals, and soils of divers colours, especially those of ocre and murray, from which they extract copperas as well as allum.

Its marble is hewed out of the rocks near Egglestone in Richmondshire, where begins that mountainous tract, in the north-west part of this shire, called by the inhabitants Stanemoor, because 'tis so rugged and stony: at the same time 'tis a place so desolate, that it has but one inn, and that in the middle of it, for entertaining travellers.

The husbandmen all along the shore about Whitby are almost continually employed in making a particular manure for their land. For this purpose they gather the sea wreck, and lay it on heaps, and when 'tis dry they burn it. While this is doing they stir it to and fro with an iron rake, to prevent its burning to ashes, and so it condenses and cakes together in such a body as they call *kelp*, which is also of use in making allum.

The air is colder and reckoned more wholesome in this than in the other two Ridings. As the air is colder here than in the other Ridings, it not only produces more pit-coal than they do, but is furnished with very large forests of fuel, as Apelgarth, Lune, and New Forest in the wapentake of Gillingwest, besides Pickering Forest in the wapentake of that name, and Galtres abovementioned.

As the sea-coast here swarms with herrings at their proper season, and large turbutts, so its rivers abound all the year with variety of fresh fish.

From Richmond we soon passed by Pierce-bridge into the county of Durham, formerly called the patrimony of St. Cuthbert, and endowed with more privileges, as I was told, than any other county, till the Reformation; and now 'tis esteemed the richest bishopric in England.

They who delight in a good sharp air will probably take pleasure in that of this bishopric, which is observed to be colder in the west parts than the east, where the warm breezes from the sea dissolve both ice and snow. In the western parts of it the fields are barren and naked, the woods thin, and the hills bald; but the lead and coal mines make some amends for that sterility of soil. The east, south, and north parts are more fruitful, especially where the husbandman has bestowed due labour upon it. Upon the whole, though we meet here with variety of meadows, pastures and corn fields, the soil of the bishopric is not in general to be reckoned among the most fruitful; yet 'tis thick set with towns, and very rich in mines of coal, which is exported from Shields, Sunderland, and Hartlepoole to London, and other places, all under the name of Newcastle coal. In most parts of this county coal lies so near the surface of the earth, that the waggon and cart wheels often turn it up in the beaten road, and thereby the veins are discovered. Not to enter into the discussion of naturalists upon coal, I shall make use of the learned Camden's words: "Some would have this sea-coal to be a black, earthy bitumen, others to be jet, and others to be *lapis Thracius*; all which that great master of mineral learning, Georgius Agricola, proves to be the very same. For certain, this of ours is nothing but bitumen hardened and con- creted by heat under ground, for it casts the same smell that bitumen does, and if water be sprinkled on it, it burns the hotter and clearer; but whether or no it is quenched with oil, I have not tried. If the *lapis obsidianus* be in England, I should take it for that which is found in other parts of this kingdom, and commonly goes by the name of cannel, or candle-coal, for that is hard, shining, light, and apt to cleave into thin flakes, and to burn out as soon as it is kindled." Later inquirers into the nature of this mineral assert, that besides the bituminous part easily discerned

in the burning, there are sometimes vitriolic and ferrugineous, with a mixture of ocre and terrene parts. Indeed, vitriol is frequently found in the mines, and ocre often adheres to it. The abundance of this product in the bishopric is the reason that the inhabitants apply little to any other traffic or manufacture. The soil is farther kind to them in yielding lead and iron; and the treasure of mines is so much sooner brought home than those of manufactures and traffic, that where the one abound, the other are generally neglected.

We passed from the barren surface, but rich bowels of the county of Durham, by the town of Gateside, into Newcastle, which is a town and county of itself; and we from thence proceeded to make our observations on the county of Northumberland, which heretofore gave name to one of the kingdoms in the Heptarchy. We found the soil various: that on the sea-coast is very fruitful, if well manured and cultivated, bearing good wheat, and most sorts of other grain; and on both sides of the Tyne there are very large meadows. The west parts indeed are very mountainous, but abound with rich mines of coal, &c. and afford good pasture for sheep; and though these northern parts are generally bleak in the winter with nipping frosts, yet the shepherds here, being defended by the mountains, dwell in their huts called sheals, during the winter season, and attend their flocks also all the summer in the open fields. The men of this county, I was told, are remarkably good soldiers; and it abounds with ancient and good families. It abounds more with coal, especially about Newcastle, than any other county in England; which, though it be not fetched out of the sea, but dug out of the ground, as that which in other countries is called pit-coal, yet being brought by sea to all the other parts of England, and carried also by sea to Scotland, as well as France and Flanders, it is thence called sea-coal. It is almost impossible to express the vast trade that is brought into this county by the transportation of coals to all parts, insomuch that London alone, before there was half the number of brewers and distillers that there is now, was said to consume 600,000 chaldrons in a year.

Notwithstanding Northumberland is a very large county, and does not want its peculiarians to recommend it to a traveller, we posted with more than usual expedition to return by Cumberland, from whence we set out, soon after we could take a cursory view of that and the other counties we had left unsurveyed.—Cumberland is bounded on the west by the Irish Sea, by which means it enjoys a good maritime trade; and its hills yielding good pasture, and valleys plenty of all sorts of grain, it may not be improperly numbered among the fruitful counties of the island: it also not only abounds with wild-fowl and fish, for pleasure and support of life; but with pit-coal and mines of lead and copper, to enable them to carry on a foreign trade with advantage.

The happy soil of Cumberland was no sooner left, but we pitied the poor inhabitants of that hill and marshy county of Westmoreland; though as we proceeded southward we found it not without some blessings of Heaven, or fruitful spots of ground; and merely prompted by necessity, as I suppose, in some parts of this county the natives endeavour to make up the deficiencies of their soil by their art and industry: for, arriving at Kendal, we (beyond all expectation) found it to be a rich, well-inhabited town, and carrying on a great trade of woollen cloth, druggets, serge, cotton, stockings and hats.

We still kept by the shore of the Irish Sea, and passed forward into the county palatine of Lancaster. And here I observed, that the soil, where it is plain and level, commonly yields wheat and barley; the hills are generally stony and barren, but their bottoms produce excellent oats. In some parts the land produceth good hemp, and the pasture ground feedeth both oxen and cows of a larger size than in any other county. Here is plenty of timber, coal, lead, iron, copper, antimony, black-lead, *lapis calaminaris*;

and allum, brimstone, and green vitriol, found in the coal-pits. Here also is found, in the manor of Haigh, a sort of coal, called cannel or candle-coal, which not only makes a much better or more chearful fire than pit-coal; but when polished, will not soil a white linen cloth, though it is as black as jet.

In the marshy part of this county the natives burn turfs, which they have in great plenty; and it abounds with many good trading towns, especially in the fustian, linen check, and narrow both linen and woollen wares, at Preston, Blackbourne, Bolton, Bury, Rochdale, Warrington, but especially at Manchester and in its neighbourhood. In this county is also that famous town Liverpool, so noted through the world for its extensive trade.

The pleasure I took in viewing the manufactures in Lancashire detained us more than usual; but at last we set forward for Cheshire, whose product is more particularly cheese and salt. Its cheese is said by most authors, and commended by most eaters, to be the best in England, except such as have tasted the Cheddar cheese of Somersetshire, which must be allowed to excel it by far; which by some is attributed to the excellency of its pasturage, which must be allowed to be the richest of any on the west side of Britain. Of this cheese I was informed from credible hands, that London takes off 14,000 tons a-year; that the navigation of the Trent and Severn carries off near 8000 tons more, and that the kingdoms of Scotland and Ireland do not buy up less than 4000 tons of the same yearly; besides what is carried off by land carriage, and consumed in Wales, and the inland counties: which together, upon a moderate computation, cannot amount to less than 30,000 tons a-year. Nor could I think myself imposed upon by this estimate, when I am a witness, that you cannot go into any good house, public or private, throughout England, but you are sure to be entertained after victuals with Cheshire cheese. But all the cheese that passes for Cheshire at London, and other places, is not made in this county; for great part of it comes out of Wales, where some pretend the goats are milked as well as the cows for that use. It affords great store of all sorts of victuals, corn, flesh, fish, and of the best salmon. It derives a considerable trade, not only by importing, but by return, as having within itself salt-pits, mines, and metals.

As to the salt made in this county, it being a method quite new to me, and the means of driving a considerable trade, I thought it worth my while to be more diligent in my speculation about it; by which I found that about Nantwich, Northwich, and Middlewich, about thirty miles from the sea, are several salt-springs near the river Weaver, and seldom exceed four yards in depth, which is called the salt-pit; and the water is so very cold at the bottom of the pit, that when the briners sometimes go about to cleanse it, they cannot stay in it above half an hour, and in that time they are forced to drink strong waters. The springs are rich or poor in a double sense; for a spring may be rich in salt, but poor in the quantity of brine it affords. It is a mistaken notion of the briners, that the brine is strongest at the full and change of the moon. The quick use of the pit adds extremely to the strength of the brine, for much or frequent drawing makes way for the salt springs to come quicker, and allows the less time for the admission of fresh springs.

It is observed by the briners, that they make more salt with the same quantity of brine in dry than in wet seasons. They use for their fuel Staffordshire pit-coal. The pans in which they boil the salt are set upon iron bars, and closed up on all sides with clay and bricks, that neither flame nor smoke may get through. They first fill their pans with brine out of the pit, from which it comes to them in several wooden gutters: then they put into their pans, among their brine, a certain mixture made of about

twenty gallons of brine, and two quarts of calf's, cow's, or chiefly sheep's blood, mixed into a claret colour. Of this mixture they put about two quarts into a pan that holds about three hundred and sixty quarts of brine. This bloody brine, at the first boiling up of the pan, brings up a scum, which they are careful to rake off with a wooden handle, thrust through a long square of wainscot board, twice as big as a good square trencher: this they call a *loot*. They then continue the fire as quick as they can, till half of the brine be wasted; and this they call *boiling up of the fresh*: but when it is half boiled away, they fill their pans again with new brine out of the ship (the name they give to a great cistern by their pan's side), into which their brine runs through the wooden gutters from the pump, which stands in the pit. Then they put into the pan two quarts of the following mixture: they take a quart of whites of eggs, beat them thoroughly with as much brine till they are well broken; then they mix them with twenty gallons of brine, as before was done with blood; and thus that which they call the *whites* is made. As soon as this is in, they boil sharply till the second scum rises; then they scum it off as before, and boil it very gently till it corn, to procure which, when a part of the brine is wasted, they put into each pan of the contents aforesaid, about a quarter of a pint of the best and strongest ale they can get. This makes a momentary ebullition, which is soon over, and then they abate their fires, yet not so, but that they keep it boiling all over, though gently; for the workmen say, that if they boil fast here, which they call *boiling on the leach*, because they usually at this time lade in their *leach-brine*, which is such brine as runs from their salt, when it is taken up before it hardens; if, I say, they boil fast here, it wastes their salt. After all their *leach-brine* is in, they boil gently till a kind of scum comes on it like a thin ice, which is the first appearance of the salt. Then that sinks, and the brine every where gathers into corns at the bottom to it, which they gently rake together with their loots. They do it gently, for much stirring breaks the corn; so they continue till there is but very little brine left in the pans. Then with their loots they take it up, the brine dropping from it, and throw it into barrows, which are cases made with flat cleft wickers in the shape almost of a sugar loaf, with the bottom uppermost*. When the barrow is full, they let it stand so for half an hour in the trough, where it drains out all the *leach-brine* abovementioned. Then they remove it into their hot-house behind their works, made there by two tunnels under their pans carried back for that purpose. The *leach-brine* that runs from the barrows they put into the next boiling, it being salt melted, and wanting only to be hardened. This work is performed in two hours in the smaller pans, which are shallower, and generally boil their brine more away; wherefore their salt will last better, though it does not granulate so well, because when the brine is wasted, the fire and the stirring breaks the corns. But this salt weighs heavier, and melts not so soon; and therefore is bought by them who carry it far. In the greater pans, which are usually deeper, they are about half an hour longer in boiling; but, because they take their salt out of the brine, and only harden it in their hot-house, it is apter to melt away in a moist air; yet of this sort of salt, the bigger the grain is, the longer it endures; and generally this is the better granulated, and the clearer, though the other be the whiter. This kind measures to good profit, therefore it is much bought by them who sell again.

* When the troughs or barrels set in the earth to receive the salt water from the pit are full, of which notice is given by a bell, they lade the water into their leads, of which they have six in every wick-house, and immediately put fire to them to boil up the salt. These brine-pans are attended by certain women called *wallers*, who with little wooden rakes draw the salt from the bottom as the brine is seething, and and put into the abovementioned wickers or barrows, where they let the salt stand for the water to drain from it.

They never cover their pans at all, during their whole time of boiling. They have their houses like barns open up to the thatch, with a louver-hole or two to vent the steam of the pans, which is such, that I am confident no plaster will stick, but the board will warp, and the nails will rust, so as quickly to fret to pieces.

Grey salt is the sweepings of the salt which are constantly shed and scattered about on the floor, not without taking much of the dirt, which occasions its greyishness. This does not sell at half the price of white salt, and is only bought up by the poorer sort of people, to salt their bacon, coarse cheese, &c. Catts of salt are made of the worst sort of salt, when yet wet with from the pans, molded and intermixed with cummin-seed and ashes, and so baked into a hard lump in the mouths of their ovens. The use of these is only for pigeon-houses; but loaves of salt are the finest of all for trencher use. There is no difference in the boiling of these from the common way of fine salt, but in the making up some care is used; for, first, they cut their barrows, which they intend for salt loaves, with a long slit from top to bottom, equally on both sides; they then tie both sides together with cords; then they fill this barrow with salt boiled as usually, but in the filling are careful to ram down the salt with the end of some wooden bar, continuing this till their barrow be filled to their minds; then placing it speedily in their hot-house, they let it stand there all the time of their walling; wherefore they prepare for their loaves at the beginning of the work, that they may have all the benefit of their hot-houses; and when these begin to slack, they take out the loaves, and untie the cords which fastened the barrow, that both sides may open easily without breaking the loaf. Then they take the loaf and bake it in an oven, where household-bread has been baked, and just drawn out. This they do twice or thrice, till they see it is baked firm: and this being placed in a stove, or a chimney-corner, and covered close with a hose of cloth or leather, like the sugar-loaf papers, will keep very white; and when they have occasion to use any, they shave it off with a knife, as is done with loaf-sugar to fill the salt-cellar.

Our next route was into Staffordshire, which also is composed of various soils; for the moor-lands of this county, which are mountainous, and therefore reckoned the most barren, produce a short but sweet grass, by which they bring up as fine large cattle as those of Lancashire; and the graziers say, that they will feed better, and much more, in the rich pastures and meadows that adorn the banks of the Dove, Trent, Blythe, Charnet, &c. all in the north part of this county. Dove-bank, or the banks of the Dove, is reckoned the best feeding ground in England, for the reasons abovementioned; and by these rich pastures and meadows the great dairies are maintained in this part of Staffordshire, which supply the noted Uttoxeter-market with such vast quantities of butter and cheese. Sheep are also fed in the northern as well as the southern parts in great numbers, but they are small, and their wool is coarse. They generally have black noses, and their wool is something finer in the south than in the north. Much of it is manufactured in this county in the cloathing-trade and felting. Nor is the arable ground less fruitful than the pasture; for even the barren moor-lands, when manured by the husbandman with marle and lime mixed with turf ashes, produce good oats and barley; the last not so plenty indeed, but as good as in the south. And as to the southern parts, and some adjacent parishes in the north, they produce all sorts of grain, as wheat, rye, barley, pulse, &c. In these parts they also sow hemp and flax; so that this shire, all things considered, may be called *Terra suis contenta bonis*, i. e. that can subsist of itself without the help of any other county.

As to subterraneous productions, both the moor-lands and wood-lands yield lead, copper, iron, marble, alabaster, mill-stones, coal and salt, near as good as that of
Cheshire,

Cheshire, &c. Of this sort of lands consists the chace of Canock-wood, and most of the warrens and parks of the nobility and gentry. In the more fruitful part of the county are found marles of several sorts and colours, most of which are laid upon their lands with very great success; and of some they make very good bricks, especially of the reddish clay marle. Here are other useful earths, which has caused the best manufactory for earthen and stone wares in England to be promoted in this county. There is a brick-earth which burns blue, and is supposed to be that sort whereof the Romans made their urns; fullers-earth, potters-clay, particularly a sort used in the glassies at Amblecot, whereof are made the best in England, for which reason it is sold for 7d. a-bushel, and sent as far as London, Bristol, &c. slip, a reddish sort of earth, wherewith they paint divers vessels; yellow and red ocre, which are observed to lie chiefly in their best lands; and tobacco-pipe-clay, of which the best sort is found in Monway-field, between Wednesbury and Willingsforth. It produces also valuable stones, and minerals of various sorts: as, 1. The fire-stone for hearths of iron furnaces, ovens, &c.; 2. Rocks of lime-stone; 3. Iron-stone, dug at Darleston, Apedale, and many other places. The best sort of iron-stone, called musk, is as big sometimes as the crown of a hat, and contains a pint of a cold sharp liquor, yet so pleasant to the taste, that the workmen are fond of it: this sort is found at Rushal, and the best sort of iron wares, as keys, &c. are made of it; 4. The blood-stone, or *hæmatites*, found in the Brook Tent, which is very weighty, and if a little wet will draw red lines like ruddle; 5. Copper-ore, or stones dug out of Edon-hill, in the parish of Wetton; 6. Lead-ore, dug in a yellowish stone with cawk and spar in Townsfield, on the side of Lawton-park; 7. Quarry-stones, mill-stones, and grind-stones of several colours; 8. Alabaster, and good marble of divers kinds, some of which exceeds any brought from beyond sea; and there are whole mountains of it in the lordship of Grindon at Yelperfley-tor, Powke-hill, &c.

To supply the scarcity of wood, which is seldom used in this county for fuel, there is plenty of turf and peat, cannel-coal, peacock and pit-coal. The cannel-coal, which has been formerly mentioned in my account of Lancashire, is supposed to take its name from the British word *canwell*, signifying a candle, because it gives so bright a flame, that in the dark it supplies the place of a candle. The peacock coal, which is dug up on Hanley-green, near Newcastle-under-Line, is softer than cannel-coal, and therefore not capable of being polished as that is. It is so called, because it has all the colours in the peacock's train, when turned towards the light; but it is better for the forge than the kitchen, which is supplied by the pit-coal, dug about Wednesbury, Dudley and Sedgeley, and is preferred by some to cannel-coal; for it burns into white ashes, leaving no such cinder as the coal from Newcastle-upon-Tyne. Of this sort of coal there is such plenty in this county, that commonly there are twelve or fourteen collieries, and twice as many out of work within ten miles round, which afford from two thousand to five thousand tons a-year; but it will not be serviceable in malting till it is charred; when it is so freed from all its unpleasant fumes, then it makes fit winter-firing for a chamber. The coal thus prepared is called coak, and gives as good heat almost as charcoal. This pit-coal often takes fire in the pit, which may be ascribed to the bitumen in the coal, which being put into a ferment by water, produceth fire, and so the pits take fire of themselves.

We at last arrived in the county of Salop, where the air is very healthy, as it generally is, in such as are mountainous or hilly. The soil, which is in many parts of a reddish clay, is various as in other places; the south and west parts, which are the most hilly, not being altogether so fruitful as the low grounds; of which this county has its share. Plenty of wheat and barley is produced here, together with the other sorts of grain

grain necessary for human life, besides inexhaustible pits of coal, which did it enjoy the advantage of water-carriage, as Newcastle, &c. does, this county would also vie with it in plenty of that product. By the Severn side are rich, large meadows, that yield abundance of grass and hay for the cattle, which are chiefly fed on the upland pastures; and the hilly country, on the borders of Wales, is excellent sheep-pasture. Here are also mines of copper, lead, iron-stone, and lime-stone. Over most of the coal-pits there lies a stratum of a blackish, hard, but very porous substance, containing great quantities of bitumen, which being ground to powder in the horse-mills, such as are used in grinding flints to make glass, and well boiled in coppers of water, the earthy and gritty parts sink to the bottom, but on the surface swims the bituminous matter, which, by evaporation, is brought to the consistency of pitch; or by the help of an oil distilled from the same stone, and mixed with it, may be thinned to a sort of tar; and both substances serve particularly for caulking of ships as well as pitch or tar, if not better; for they do not crack as the common pitch or tar, but always keep black and soft; and might, as it is imagined, be very serviceable against the worm, so mischievous to ships.

Thus, we surveyed the air, soil, product, and manufactures of the fourth part of this plentiful and rich island. Hence forward we laid aside all anxious speculations, and resolved with easy journies to set out for London, if possible, to be there against the King's birth-day. But as the manufactures and trade are chiefly confined to particular towns in these counties, I shall now retrospect and supply what has been only occasionally or superficially mentioned on that head, by giving some account of those places in England, which are most noted either for making or selling goods.

A BRIEF ACCOUNT OF THE STATE OF

Counties Names in Alphabetical Order.	Names of such as have their Titles from the County or Chief Town.	Antiquity of the Title in the present Name and Family.	Area of the County in Acres.	Principal Commodities in each County.	Names of the Chief or County Towns.	In what Circuit of the Judges each county is situate.	Latitude of the Middle of each County.	Longitude thereof from London.	Their Distances and Bearings from London computed at Miles.
Bedfordshire	Russell	Er. Ed. 6. D. W. 3	260000	corn, cattle, cheese	Bedford, D.	Norfolk	52 00	0 30	36 NNW
Berkshire, Er.	Howard	James 1. or Ch. 1	527000	fail-cloth, malt	Reading	Oxford	51 35	1 20	44 W
Buckinghamshire, D.	Sheffield	D. Q. Anne	441000	wood, corn, cattle	Buckingham	Norfolk	51 50	0 45	33 WNW
Cambridgeshire	Elect. P. of Hanover	Q. Anne	570000	corn, fowl, saffron	Cambridge, D.	Norfolk	52 22	0 10	54 N near
Cheshire			720000	{ corn, cattle, cheese } { salt, and millstones }	Chester, Er.		53 10	2 40	132 NW
Cornwall, D.			960000	{ fish, copper, tin, } { fowl, fine slate }	Launceston	Western	50 18	5 00	175 W by S
Cumberland, D.	Prince William	George 1.	1040000	copper, blacklead, fish	Carlisle	Northern	54 47	3 05	214 NW by N
Derbyshire	Stanley	Henry 7.	680000	coals, iron, lead	Derby, Er.	Midland	53 08	1 40	107 NW by N
Devonshire, D.	Cavendish	E. J. 1. D. W. & M.	1920000	{ corn, cattle, wool, } { fish, cloth, ferges }	Exeter	Western	50 40	3 50	160 W by S
Dorsetshire, D.	Sackville	James 1.	772000	corn, cattle, stone	Dorchester	Western	50 43	2 30	92 WSW
Durham	{ Dunelm (Bp.) } { Dr. Chandler }	George 1.	610000	coals, iron, lead	Durham		54 40	1 35	186 N by W
Effex, Er.	Capell	Charles 2.	1240000	{ corn, wood, saffron, } { cattle, fish, fowl }	Colchester	Home	51 45	0 30	25 NE
Gloucestershire	Prince Frederick	George 1.	800000	{ corn, cloth, steel, } { timber }	Gloucester, D.	Oxford	51 44	2 15	75 W by N
Hampshire	Fitz-Roy	Charles 2.	1312500	{ corn, cloth, cattle, } { wool, honey, bacon }	Southampton, D.	Western	51 00	1 15	52 WSW
Herefordshire	Devereux	Edward 6.	660000	{ wheat, wood, wool, } { cider }	Hereford, F.	Oxford	52 10	2 47	104 WNW
Hertfordshire	Seymour	Henry 8.	451000	wheat, malt, wood	Hertford, Er.	Home	51 48	0 08	24 NNW
Huntingtonshire	Hastings	Henry 8.	240000	corn, cattle, wood	Huntington, Er.	Norfolk	52 17	0 20	52 N by W
Kent, D.	Grey	Er. Ed. 4. D. Q. An.	1248000	fruit, cattle, corn	{ Canterbury, } { Maidstone af. }	Home	51 10	0 45	40 SE by E
Lancashire			1150000	oxen, coals, oats	Lancaster, D.	Northern	53 50	2 35	160 NW by N
Leicestershire	Sidney	Elizabeth, or Ja. 1.	560000	coals, wood, sheep	Leicester, Er.	Midland	52 35	1 20	80 NW by N
Lincolnshire	Clinton	Queen Elizabeth	1740000	cattle, wool, fowl	Lincoln, Er.	Midland	53 05	0 00	108 N
Middlesex, Er.	Sackville	James 1.	247000	roots, hay, cattle	London	Home	51 38	0 05	8 NW by W
Norfolk, D.	Howard	Rich. 3. & Char. 2.	1148000	{ corn, wool, honey, } { saffron, stuffs }	Norwich	Norfolk	52 38	1 00	85 NE by N
Northamptonshire	Compton	James 1.	550000	{ cattle, corn, wool, } { saltpetre }	Northampton, Er.	Midland	52 20	0 55	60 NW by N
Northumberland, D.			1370000	lead, coals, fish, fowl	Newcastle	Northern	55 15	1 55	225 N by W
Nottinghamshire	Finch	Charles 2.	560000	{ corn, malt, coals, } { liquorice, fish, fowl }	Nottingham, Er.	Midland	53 05	1 05	98 NNW
Oxfordshire	Harley	Queen Anne	534000	corn, malt, cattle, wood	Oxford, Er.	Oxford	51 45	1 20	47 WNW
Rutlandshire, D.	Manners	Er. H. 8. D. Q. An.	110000	wool, wood, corn, cattle	Ockham	Midland	52 32	0 38	67 NNW
Shropshire	Talbot	Er. H. 6. D. W. 3.	890000	fuel, iron, corn, cattle	Shrewsbury, Er.	Oxford	52 40	2 52	116 NW by W
Somerfetshire, D.	Seymour	Edward 6.	1075000	{ lapis caliminaris, } { cattle, lead, wood }	{ Bristol } { Wells }	Western	51 05	3 05	103 W by S
Staffordshire	Howard	Charles 1. Ja. 2.	810000	coals, iron, lead	Stafford, Er.	Oxford	53 00	2 10	104 NW
Suffolk, Er.	Howard	James 1.	995000	{ butter, cheese, } { linen, woollen }	Ipswich	Norfolk	52 15	1 00	60 NE
Surrey, Er.	{ Howard, Duke } { of Norfolk }	Richard 3.	592000	{ fullers-earth, box, } { corn, walnuts }	Southwark	Home	51 15	0 20	17 SSW
Suffex, Er.	Yelverton	George 1.	1140000	{ cast-iron, corn, cat- } { tle, malt, wool }	Chichester	Home	50 55	0 00	35 S
Warwickshire	Rich	James 1.	670000	wood, wool, cheese	{ Coventry & } { Warwick, Er. }	Midland	52 20	1 35	67 NW by W
Westmoreland, Er.	Fane	James 1.	510000	{ cloth, stuffs, hats, } { stockings }	Appleby	Northern	54 15	2 50	204 NNW
Wiltshire, Er.	Pawlet, D. of Bolton	Er. Ed. 6. D. W. 3.	676000	sheep, wool, cloth, wood	Salisbury	Western	51 20	2 00	70 W by S
Worcestershire	{ Somerfet, Duke } { of Beaufort }	Er. H. 8. D. Ch. 2	540000	cyder, salt, cheese	Worcester, M.	Oxford	52 12	2 13	87 NW by W
Yorkshire	{ Ern. Augustus, } { Bishop of } { Osnaburgh }	George 1.	3770000	cloth, corn, cattle	York, D.	Northern	54 10	1 20	155 N by W

Observe that D. signifies Duke; M. Marquis; Er. Earl; F. Viscount: And that when D. or Er. &c. stand next after the County, the Title is from that E. signifies East, W. West, N. North, S. South, Lon. London,

EACH COUNTY IN ENGLAND, Anno 1731.

Number of Parishes in each County.	Number of Vicars.	In what Diocese each County is.	Names of the Cities in each County.	Market Towns.	Villages in each Shire near	Houses.	Inhabitants in each County about	Parliament Men.	Proportion of Parts each County has paid King's tax.	Names of the Rivers in each County.	Parts.	Hundreds, Rapes, Laths, Wapen- takes, &c.
116	58	Lincoln		10	550	12170	60850	4	7	Ouse, Ivel		9 hundreds
140	62	Salisbury		12	671	16906	84530	9	10	Thames, Ifis, Kenet		22 hundreds
185	73	Lincoln		11	615	18390	91950	14	12	Tame, Ouse, Colne		8 hundreds
163	83	{ part Ely p. Norwich	Ely	5	279	17347	86735	6	9	Cam, Ouse, Grant		16 hundreds
68	20	Chester	Chester	11	670	24054	120270	4	7	Dee, Weever	1	7 hundreds
161	89	Exeter		19	1230	25374	126870	44	8	Fawey, Loo, Alan	10	9 hundreds
90	37	{ p. Chester p. Carlisle	Carlisle	7	447	14825	74125	6	1	{ Eden, Derwent, Irthing, Leven	4	
106	53	Litchf. & Cov.		8	503	21155	105775	4	6	Derwent, Trent		5 hundreds
394	117	Exeter	Exeter	27	1733	56310	281550	26	21	{ Dart, Taw, Ex, Tamer, Turrige	3	30 hundreds
248	68	{ Bristol with that city		18	1006	21944	109720	20	9	Stower, Frome	5	28 hundreds
118	59	Durham	Durham	3	223	15984	79920	4	3	Tine, Derwent, Ware, Tees	2	
415	125	London		19	1100	34819	174095	8	24	{ Thames, Stower, Colne, Lee, Chelmer	3	18 hundreds
280	96	Gloucester	Gloucester	18	1229	26764	133820	8	12	{ Severn, Avon, Ifis, Wye, Stroud	2	21 hundreds
253	77	Winchester	Winchester	15	1062	26851	134255	26	14	Avon, Stour, Itchin	5	33 hundreds
176	87	Hereford	Hereford	7	391	15000	75000	8	5	Frome, Lug, Arrow, Wey		12 hundreds
120	54	{ p. London p. Lincoln		15	949	16569	82845	6	11	Colne, Lee		8 hundreds
79	25	Lincoln		5	279	8217	41085	4	4	Ouse, Nen		3 hundreds
408	163	{ p. Canterbury. p. Rochester	{ Canterbury Rochester	20	1173	39242	196210	10	22	{ Thames, Medway, Stower, Derwent	6	5 laths
36	12	Chester		16	894	40202	201010	14	5	{ Mersee, Ribble, Lon, Irk, Irwell	2	5 hundreds
192	81	Lincoln		10	558	18702	93510	4	9	Stower, Swift, Reek		6 hundreds
630	256	Lincoln	Lincoln	21	1556	40590	202950	12	19	{ Humber, Weland, Trent, Witham, Nen	7	{ 3 hundreds 25 wapentakes
{ 127 Lon. We. 73 Mx.	{ 10 Lon. 31 Mx.	London	{ London Westminster	5	280	{ 108000 B.M. 5000 Mx.	{ 590060 25000	8	80	Thames, Colne	1	{ 5 hundreds 2 liberties
660	164	Norwich	Norwich	22	1499	47180	235900	12	22	Ouse, Yare, Waveney, Frin	2	31 hundreds
326	85	Peterborough	Peterborough	10	551	24808	124040	9	12	Nen, Ouse, Weland		20 hundreds
46	9	Durham		5	279	22741	113705	8	—	Tine, Tweed	2	
168	94	York		7	450	17554	87770	8	7	Trent, Idle, Maun, Snite		{ 6 wapentakes 2 divisions
280	62	Oxford	Oxford	8	451	19007	95035	9	10	{ Thames, Tame, Ifis, Charwell, Windrush		14 hundreds
48	10	Peterborough		2	111	3263	16315	2	2	Weland, Chatter		5 hundreds
170	52	{ p. H. reford p. Lit. & Cov.		10	615	23284	116420	12	7	{ Severn, Feme, Tern Roden, Rea		14 hundreds
385	132	Bath and Wells	{ Bristol part Bath & Wells	24	1660	44686	223430	18	19	{ Severn, Avon, Frome, Parot, Tor, Tone	4	37 hundreds
150	39	{ Litchfield & Coventry	Litchfield	12	670	23747	118735	10	7	{ Trent, Dove, Line, Sou, Churnet, Blyth, Pink, &c.		5 hundreds
575	95	Norwich		22	1500	34422	172110	16	20	{ Stower, Deben, Brelen, Blyth, Orwell, Ouse, Clare	5	17 hundreds
140	35	Winchester		8	449	34218	171090	14	18	Thames, Mole, Wey		13 hundreds
312	123	Chichester	Chichester	14	1060	21537	107685	20	16	Rother, Arun, Lavant, Lewes	4	6 rapes
158	87	{ p. Lit. & Cov. p. Worcester	Coventry	10	780	21973	109865	6	10	{ Avon, Sou, Anker, Tame, Blyth, Cole		{ 4 hundreds 1 liberty
26	—	{ part Chester part Carlisle		3	220	6501	32505	4	1	{ Eden, Ken, Lon, Loder, Sput, Burbeck		
304	107	Salisbury	Salisbury	17	950	27093	35465	34	13	{ Avon, Willy, Ifis, Nadder, Kenet		29 hundreds
152	55	Worcester	Worcester	9	500	20634	103170	9	9	{ Severn, Avon, Tame, Salwarp, Stour, Arrow		{ 7 hundreds 2 limits
563	242	{ York, except Richmon wh. isin Chesterd.	York	39	2330	106151	530755	30	24	{ Humber, Your, Aire, Caldor, Derwent, Dun, Ouse, Nide, Swall, Tees	5	23 wapentakes

thence; but if after the County-Town, then it is from that; and where Blanks are, the Titles are not in Being to the Royal Family. Also
We. Westminster, p. Part, d. Diocese, B.M. Bills of Mortality, and Mx. Middlesex.

CHAP. III.—*Containing an Account of the Principal Towns of Trade and Manufactures in England.*

IN this I shall observe the method of the foregoing survey of the counties, and begin with Falmouth, the town where I first landed.

Falmouth is by much the richest and best trading town in the county of Cornwall. 'Tis so commodious an harbour, that ships of the greatest burden come up to its key. 'Tis guarded by the castle of St. Maws and Pendennis, which have both governors and garrisons; and there is such shelter in the many creeks belonging to it, that the whole royal navy may ride here safe, whatever wind blows. 'Tis well built, and its trade is mightily increased since the establishment of the packets between this place and Portugal, and the West Indies, which not only bring over vast quantities of gold in specie, or in bars, on account of the merchants of London, but the Falmouth merchants carry on a trade with the Portuguese in ships of their own; and they have a great share too in the gainful pilchard trade. The custom-house for most of the towns in this county is established at this town, where the duties, including those of the other ports, are very considerable. It is computed to be about two hundred and ninety miles from London.

In the same county I saw the town of Padstow, situate at the mouth of the river Camel, in the Bristol channel. This town lies convenient for trade with Ireland. From hence to St. Ives is a most pleasant fruitful country, the hills on the left abounding with tin, copper, and lead, which are all carried to the other shore; the chief business of this, besides the trade in slate-tiles, being the fishing of herrings, which come the channel in October. The inhabitants, for their particular love of mirth and good cheer, gave occasion to the phrase of the *Good-fellowship of Padstow*. Near to this place is New Island, noted for good camphire and sea-fowl.

In the county of Devon we arrived at the city of Exeter; it is the see of a bishop (which was transferred hither from Crediton by Edward the Confessor) and one of the principal cities in the kingdom for its buildings, wealth, antiquity, and number of its inhabitants, is the Augusta of the Romans, and the Isca of Ptolemy and Antoninus. It has its name from the river Ex, on which it stands. It has six gates, besides turrets, and with the suburbs is two miles in compass. It is advantageously situate on rising ground.

As great a trade as is now carried on in this city for serges, petpetuanas, long-ells, druggets, kerseys, and other woollen goods, in which it is computed that 600,000*l.* a-year at least is traded for in Exeter; yet it was so late as the 30th of Henry VIII. before the markets, for wool, yarn, and kerseys, were erected here. The merchants before that time drove a considerable trade to Spain and France, and the latter were incorporated in the reign of Queen Mary I. by the name of the governor, consuls, and society of merchant-adventurers trading to France. There were weavers here before Henry VIII.; but Crediton kept the wool-market and cloth-trade, after the bishoprick was transferred from thence hither, and very much opposed the settling of any market here for wool, yarn, or kerseys, which however was effected, and a cloth-market set up in North-gate-street, which about 30 years after, viz. in 1590, was removed to South-gate-street, where in 1660 standings were erected for the serge-market, now kept weekly, which is said to be the greatest in England, next to the brigg-market at Leeds in Yorkshire; and that sometimes as many serges have been sold in a week, as amount to 60 or 80,000*l.*; for besides the vast quantities of their woollen goods usually shipped for Portugal, Spain, and Italy, the Dutch give large commissions for buying up serges, perpetuanas,

perpetuanas, &c. for Holland and Germany : that to France is not very considerable, and indeed too much of what there is, is in the hands of smugglers ; which practice, so mischievous to the fair merchant, has been more successful on the south coast than any other parts of England. It is particularly remarked of this city, that it is as full of gentry almost as it is of tradesmen, and that there have been more mayors and bailiffs of it, who have descended from good families, or given rise to them, than of any other of its bigness in England ; for the great trade and flourishing state of this city tempted gentlemen to settle their sons here, contrary to the practice in the midland and northern counties ; where, according to the vain and ruinous notion of the Normans, trade was left to the vulgar, and gentlemen were not to foul their fingers with it.

Plymouth, at the influx of the rivers Plym and Tamar into the channel, was anciently no more than a fishing town, but is now the largest in the shire, contains near as many souls as Exeter, and is one of the chief magazines in the kingdom, owing to its port, which is one of the biggest and safest in England, consisting of two harbours, capable of containing 1000 sail. It is defended by several forts mounted with near 300 guns, and particularly by a strong castle erected in the reign of King Charles II. upon St. Nicholas Island ; but the towns people look upon this castle, rather as an awe upon, than for a defence of the town ; and this fortification, within the circuit of its walls (which take up at least two acres) contains a large magazine-house full of stores, and five regular bastions.

It has a good pilchard-fishing on the coast, drives a considerable trade to the Streights and the West Indies, and has a custom-house.

Barnstaple, on the river Taw, compounded of *bar*, (which in British is the mouth of a river) and *staple* (which in Saxon denotes a mart of trade :) it had walls formerly, with a castle, enjoyed the liberties and privileges of a city, and had also an haven, which became so shallow, that most of the trade removed to Biddiford : yet it has still some merchants, and a good trade to America and Ireland, from whence 'tis an established port for landing wool ; and it imports more wine, and other merchandise, than Biddiford, and is every whit as considerable : for though its rival cures more fish, yet Barnstaple drives greater trade with the serge-makers of Tiverton and Exeter, who come up hither to buy shad-fish, wool, yarn, &c. 'Tis pleasantly situate among hills, in the form of a semicircle, to which the river is a diameter : there is a fair and strong bridge over it, of sixteen arches, and a paper mill. The streets are clean and well paved, and the houses built of stone, as are all the towns hereabouts.

Biddiford, (so called from its situation, i. e. *by the ford*) an ancient port and corporation on the Towridge, which a little lower joins the Taw, and falls with it into Barnstaple bay, in the Bristol Channel. There is a very fine bridge over this river, which was built in the 14th century, on 24 beautiful and stately Gothic arches. Though the foundation is very firm, yet it seems to shake at the slightest step of a horse. There are lands settled for keeping it constantly in repair ; the revenues of which are received and laid out by a bridge-warden, chosen by the mayor and aldermen. 'Tis a clean, well built, populous place, and has a street that fronts the river, three-quarters of a mile long, in which are a noble key and custom-house, where ships of good burden load and unload in the very bosom of the town. There is another street, of a good length, as broad as the St. Roch-street at Lisbon, well built, and inhabited by wealthy merchants, who send fleets every year to the West Indies, particularly Virginia and Newfoundland, and to Ireland, from whence 'tis an established port, as well as Barnstaple, for landing wool. Forty or fifty sail of ships belonging to this port have been employed to fetch cod from Newfoundland ; and others are sent to Liverpool and

Warrington,

Warrington, to fetch rock-salt, which is here dissolved by the sea-water into brine, and then boiled up into a new salt, which is justly called *salt upon salt*; and with this they cure their herrings.

In Somersetshire we arrived at the city of Bristol, the second city in the dominions of the King of Great Britain, for trade, wealth, and number of inhabitants, notwithstanding York boasts of greater antiquity and extent of ground, and Norwich of more churches. The Britains, according to Camden, call it *Caer Oder nant Baden*, *i. e.* the city Odera in Baden (or Bath) valley; and the Saxons, Brightstow, or a famous place.

As to the trade of this city, 'tis well known to all traders to be the most considerable of any port in the British dominions, London only excepted, especially to the West Indies, to which its merchants were the first adventurers, and always greater traders in proportion, than that metropolis. It was even computed, about twenty-six years ago, when it employed no less than 2000 sail of ships, that the trade, in proportion to the bigness of the two cities, was above three times as great as that of London. Indeed the Bristol merchants had a very good trade to the West Indies, at the time of the civil war, which they have increased much more, not only thither, but to all parts of the world since the Revolution. Before that, they knew little of the Guinea trade, and hardly any thing of the Dutch, the Hamburg, the Norway, and the Eastland commerce; all which have since been very flourishing in this port. In time of peace, fifty West India ships have arrived here in a fleet, or very near one another, many of them ships of considerable burden. In the late war with France, they built a sort of galleys, called runners, which being well armed and manned, and furnished with letters of marque, overtook and mastered several prizes of that nation. Many of these ships were then also carriers for London merchants, who ordered their merchandize to be landed here and sent up to Gloucester by water, thence by land to Lechlade, and thence down the Thames to London; the carriage being so reasonable, that it was more than paid for by the difference of the insurance, and risk between this port and London. These conveniences, and a shorter cut through the channel to the Land's-end, gave the merchants of Bristol a great advantage in trade over those of London; and to this advantage may, in some measure, be attributed the great number of wealthy men risen up within a few years in this city; the shop-keepers of which, who are, in general, wholesale men, have so great an inland trade, that they maintain carriers, just as the London tradesmen do, not only to Bath, and to Wells and Exeter, but to Frome, and all the principal counties and towns, from Southampton, even to the banks of the Trent. Moreover, by means of those two great rivers, the Severn and the Wye, they have the whole trade of south Wales as it were to themselves; and the greatest part of that of north Wales.

The largest ships lie at Hungroad, four miles down the river; two miles below which is Kingroad, another station. Here those ships are discharged by lighters, which carry the merchandize to the key. For the building, equipping, and repairing of ships, there are shipwrights, and all other proper artificers, yards and docks, and large rope-walks in the skirts of the town.

One of this city's principal branches of trade, and which has been prodigiously increased since the Revolution, is that to Ireland, from whence it imports tallow, linen and woollen, and bay yarn. The Streights trade, for all sorts of fruit, oil, &c. is very considerable at this port; and so indeed is that to all other countries, except Turkey and the East Indies.

In this city there are also some considerable manufactures of woollen stuffs, particularly cantaloons, which is carried on chiefly by French refugees; glass ware is as plenty and cheap at Bristol, as in any place of the world, here being no less than fifteen glass-houses, (which are served by the Kingwood and Mendip-hills coal mines) some for glasses, others for bottles, of which there is a great demand at the hot-well and Bath for exporting their mineral waters, and in general for wine, beer, cyder, &c.

Frome-Selwood is the chief town of what was anciently one great forest in the east part of Somersetshire, and the west part of Wiltshire, and therefore then called Selwoodshire.

The inhabitants are reckoned to be about 13,000; of whom 'tis said one half are new comers within these twenty years; in which time there have not been less than 2000 houses built on new foundations. They are not indeed very sumptuous, nor the streets very spacious, the latter especially being very irregular, and for the greatest part up hill and down hill. 'Twas govern'd formerly by a bailiff, and now by two constables, of the hundred of Frome, chose at the court-leet. The inhabitants of this town, who had shewn their zeal for the glorious Revolution, endeavoured, in the reign of King William, to procure a charter incorporation, but in vain, because, as they say, they were opposed in it by a neighbouring lord.

As to the woollen manufacture, it thrives here to such a degree, that seven waggons have been sent out with cloth weekly from this town for Blackwell-hall in London, &c. Indeed all of it is not made at Frome; for the clothiers of the neighbouring villages, of Elm-Mells, Whatley, Noney, &c. bring their goods hither for carriage to London; and each of these waggons have been known to hold 140 pieces, which being valued at 14*l.* one with another, make the value of the whole to amount, in the year, to above 700,000*l.* in this quarter of the county.

Twenty years ago more wire cards, for carding the wool for the spinners, were made here than in all England besides; Leeds, Hallifax, and other towns in Yorkshire, as well as the western parts of the kingdom, being supplied with them from hence: and here were no less than twenty master candlemakers; one of whom, Mr John Glover, employed 400 men, women, and children, at one time, in making them; for even children of seven or eight years of age, could earn half a-crown a-week. This shews how much the concern and dependance of this town have been in and upon the woollen manufacture. The cloths made here are, for the most part, medleys of about seven or eight shillings a-yard. The river here, which abounds with trout, eels, &c. rises in the woodlands, and runs under its stone-bridge, towards the Bath, on the east side of which it falls into the Avon. This town has been a long time particularly noted for its rare fine beer, which they keep to a great age, and is not only the nectar of the common people, but is often preferred by the gentry, to the wines of France and Portugal.

Portsmouth is the key of England, and its only regular fortification; it stands at the entrance of a creek of the island of Portsey, which is about fourteen miles in compass, surrounded, at high tides, by the sea-water, of which they make salt, and joined to the continent by a bridge, where was anciently a small castle and town, called Port Peris or Porchester, the place that Vespasian is said to have landed at when he came to Britain: 'tis termed by Ptolemy μέγας λιμὴν *i. e.* a great harbour; but the Saxons called it Port only, without any adjunct. This Port Peris lay at the upper end of the creek, but, the sea retiring from it, the inhabitants followed it, which occasioned the building of this town.

When the civil wars began, this town was secured for the Parliament, and continued in that interest till the Restoration, when Catherine the infanta of Portugal arrived here,

here, and was met by King Charles II. to consummate their marriage. That king added very much to the strength, extent, and magnificence of its fortifications by land, and to its naval preparations. He made it one of the principal chambers in the kingdom for laying up the royal navy, furnished it with wet and dry docks, store-houses, rope-yards, and all materials for building, repairing, rigging, arming, victualling, and completely fitting to sea ships of all rates, from the least to the greatest. King James II. added greatly to the fortifications, and made the Duke of Berwick its governor. It has also dwelling-houses, with ample accommodations for a commissioner of the navy, and all the subordinate officers, and master-workmen, necessary for the constant day and night-service of the navy in this port; and it is surprising to see the exact order in which the furniture is laid up in the yards and store-houses, so that the workmen can find any implement in the dark. After the Revolution, this port flourished mightily; being the constant rendezvous of the grand fleets and squadrons; for convoy of merchant ships homeward and outward bound. By these means it is so increased and enriched, that the houses of the inhabitants are near double to what they were before, and the fortifications as regular as those of any port in Europe. Here is a good counterescarp, and double mote, with ravelins in the ditch, and double palisadoes, and advanced works to cover the place from any approach where it may be practicable. The town is also the strongest on the land side, by the fortifications raised of late years about the docks and yards. Within these few years the government has bought more ground for additional works; and, no doubt, it may be made impregnable, since a shallow water may be brought quite round it. 'Tis amazing to see the immense quantities here of all sorts of military and naval stores. The rope-house is near a quarter of a mile long. Some of the great cables made here require 100 men to work at them, and their labour is so hard, that they can work but four hours in a day. The least number of men continually employed in the yard is said to be a thousand, and that but barely sufficient. The docks and yards, in short, resemble a distinct town, and are a kind of marine corporation within themselves, there being particular rows of dwellings, built at the public charge, within the new works, for all the principal officers. The situation of the place is low, and so full of water and ditches, that it is reckoned aguish. The streets are not over-clean, nor the smells very favourable; but the continual resort of seamen and soldiers to it renders it always full of people, and makes those people seem always in a hurry. The inns and taverns are perpetually crowded, but their bills are not the most moderate. The place is in want of fresh water; and though the adjacent country abounds with all sorts of provisions, yet the great consumption here makes them dear; as are also, lodgings and fuel. Here is a garrison, but the number uncertain, according to the occasion. Here are all the proper officers to take care of the revenue; and the garrison, docks, &c. are furnished with them in their several distinctions. Here is a very fine new key for laying up the cannon; and the arsenal at Venice is not so regular, nor better disposed. A thousand sail of ships may ride safe in this harbour. The mouth, not so broad as the Thames at Westminster, is secured on Gosport side by four forts, and a platform of above twenty great guns, level with the water; and on the other side by South-Sea castle, built by Henry VIII. Gosport is a large town, of great trade, where the sailors wives live for the most part, and where travellers generally chuse to lodge; every thing being cheaper and more convenient there, than in Portsmouth; and boats are continually passing from the one to the other, it being just as Southwark is to London, excepting that there is no bridge; but it is all called Portsmouth, though they are different parishes.

Such

Such has been the late increase of business at Portsmouth, and so great the confluence of people, that as the town does not admit of any enlargement for buildings, a sort of suburb to it has been built on the heathy ground adjoining, which is like to outstrip the town itself, for number of the inhabitants, and beauty of the houses; and the rather, as it is independent on the laws of the garrison, and unincumbered with the duties and services of the corporation. The sailors are entertained here, in time of war, by the ladies of pleasure, as they are at Amsterdam, and all other places where there is a great resort of shipping.

Newbury or Newbery, q. d. the New Borough, is so called in regard to its rise on the decay of the *Spinæ* of the Romans, which is dwindled into a village, with a few good inns in it, called *Spinham Land*, though still reckoned a part of Newbury. This town is famous for the two great engagements there between King Charles I. and the Parliament-army; the first on the 20th of September 1643, and the second on the 27th of October 1644; both almost on the same spot of ground, and the King present at both. Notwithstanding its name, it is a place at least as old as the conquest; and the manufacture of cloth thrived here once to such a degree, that in the reign of Henry VIII. here flourished John Winchcomb, commonly called Jack of Newbury, one of the greatest clothiers that ever was in England: for he kept 100 looms in his house; and in the expedition to Flodden-field against the Scots, marched with one hundred of his own men, all armed and clothed at his own expence; and he built all the west part of the church. Also Mr. Kenric, the son of a clothier of this town, and afterwards a merchant in London, left 4000*l.* to this town, as well as 7500*l.* to Reading, to encourage the clothing trade. It has lost most of this manufacture since it removed to the west, but makes a great quantity of shalloons and druggets, which, with its other trades, renders it still a flourishing town. It stands most pleasantly, in a fruitful plain, the river Kennet running through it. It was made a corporation by Queen Elizabeth, and is governed by a mayor, high-steward, recorder, aldermen, and capital burgeses. The streets are spacious, particularly the market-place, in which stands the Guildhall. 'Tis noted also for its excellent trout, eels, and cray-fish, and has all manner of provisions in plenty.

Birmingham, Breminham, or Bermincham, is a large populous town in Warwickshire; the upper part of it stands dry on the side of a hill, but the lower is watry. Swarms of the meaner sort of people are employed here in the iron-works, in which they are such ingenious artificers, that their performances in the small wares of iron and steel are much admired both at home and abroad. The noise of files, hammers, and anvils, is the continual music of this place. 'Tis much improved of late years by many new buildings, both public and private.

Norwich city, about one hundred and eight miles from London, in the county of Norfolk, stands near the conflux of the river *Vensder* or *Winsder*, and the river *Yare*, which is navigable from hence to Yarmouth, thirty miles by water. It was spoiled and burnt by Sueno King of Denmark, but soon grew populous again, and wealthy; and, in Edward the Confessor's days, had thirteen hundred and twenty burgeses, and paid twenty pounds to the King, besides six sextaries of honey, a bear, and six dogs to bait him. At the drawing up of the survey after the conquest, it paid seventy pounds in weight to the King, five pounds fine to the Queen, and furnished her with an ambling palfrey. Although it suffered very much by the insurrection of Ralph, Earl of the East Angles, against William the Conqueror, in whose time it was besieged and reduced by famine, yet that damage was abundantly repaired, when the episcopal see was removed hither from Thetford, which was in 1096, the year that the cathedral

was

was founded. In the reign of King Stephen, it was in a manner rebuilt, and made a corporation. Henry IV. granted them a mayor, and two sheriffs instead of bailiffs, by whom they had till then been governed, according the charter of King Stephen; and in the center of the city, near the market cross, they built a most beautiful town-house. In the year 1348, near 58,000 persons were carried off here by a pestilence; and in 1507, the city was almost entirely consumed by fire.

It stands on the side of a hill from north to south, near two miles in length, and one mile in breadth. The inhabitants are wealthy; the city populous, though not full of houses, there being void enough within the walls for another colony; and though it is, upon the whole, an irregular town, yet the buildings, both public and private, are very neat and beautiful. It has been pretended, but never proved, that it had once sixty-seven parishes in it; though were it true, it can only be inferred, that the parishes were smaller, and not the city bigger than now; for it does not appear from any history, or traces of antiquity, that the waste ground within its walls was ever filled up, either with inhabitants or habitations. It must be owned, however, to be a city of great trade itself, and adds not a little to that of Yarmouth, by the vast cargoes of coal, wine, fish, oil, and all other heavy goods, which it receives from thence by the river Yare. Its manufactures are, generally speaking, sent to London, though they export considerable quantities also from Yarmouth to Holland, Germany, Sweden, Norway, and other parts of the Baltic and northern seas, which is also no inconsiderable addition to the trade of Yarmouth.

It had a flint-stone-wall, three miles in circumference, now very much decayed, which was finished in 1309, and was then beautified with forty towers. It has twelve gates, and six bridges over the Yare, and was thirty years ago reckoned to contain 8000 houses, and at least 50,000 inhabitants, out of whom is formed a regiment of soldiers for defence of the city, besides an artillery company. It has thirty-two neat and beautiful churches, besides the cathedral chapels, and meeting-houses of all denominations. The roof of the cathedral, which is a large venerable ancient structure, is of excellent workmanship, adorned with the History of the Bible, in divers little images, carved as it were to the life. It has a spacious choir, and a strong steeple, higher than that of Grantham, but lower than that of Salisbury: it is above 105 yards from the top of the pinnacle to the pavement of the choir under it. The weather-cock, which stands upon the top-stone, is three-quarters of a yard high, and above a yard long. The bishop's palace, with the prebend's houses round the close of the cathedral, makes a very good appearance. St. Peter's of Mancroft, near the market-place, is a stately fair edifice, with an admirable ring of eight bells, reckoned one of the chief parish-churches in England. There are two churches for the Dutch and French Flemings, of whom there are great numbers here, who have singular privileges granted them, which are tenderly preserved. Some of the churches are covered with thatch, and all of them crufted with flint-stone curiously cut, as the churches in Italy are with marble; but it is thought strange from whence those stones should come, because Norwich stands in a clay country, and no flint or chalk within twenty miles of it.

The other remarkable buildings are, 1. The Duke of Norfolk's palace, which was once reckoned the largest house in England, out of London. 2. The castle, supposed to have been built in the time of the Saxons. It stands on a hill, almost in the heart of the city, surrounded by a deep ditch, over which there is a strong bridge, with an arch of an extraordinary bigness. It is the common jail for Norfolk, and by it stands the shire-house, a handsome building, where the assizes are always held for the summer circuit. 3. The town-hall, in the market-place. 4. The guild-hall, formerly the monastery

tery church of Black-friars. 5. The house of correction, or bridewell, a beautiful structure, built of square flint-stone, so nicely joined, that no mortar can be seen. 6. A lofty market-cross of free-stone, built after the manner of a piazza, as beautiful and commodious as any almost in the kingdom. 7. The King's school, founded by King Edward VI. for the instruction of boys in grammar learning, to be nominated by the mayor for the time being, with the consent of the majority of the aldermen. The other buildings are, in general, very handsome and lofty, especially about the market-place; and as there were formerly a good number of thatched houses in the bye-lanes and streets, an order was made, that all that were thereafter new built or covered, should be tiled. Some authors call this city an orchard in a city, or a city in an orchard, by reason of the pleasant intermixture of its houses and trees. It has four hospitals, one of them, viz. St. Helen's, or *Domus Dei*, as it is called, was formerly founded for the entertainment of strangers; but King Henry VIII. converted it into an hospital for the poor of the city; and it now consists of a master, chaplain, and eighty poor men and women, who are all clothed in grey, and must be sixty years of age. Doughty's hospital consists of sixteen poor men, and eight women, all clothed in purple. The boys and girls hospitals, founded by two several mayors of the city, contain thirty of each; and the boys, at a proper age, are put out apprentices. Here are twelve charity-schools, where 210 boys, and 144 girls are taught, clothed, and supplied with books.

King Henry IV. made this city a county of itself: it is governed by a mayor, recorder, steward, two sheriffs, 24 aldermen, and sixty common-council; with a town-clerk, sword-bearer, and other inferior officers. The mayor is chose always on May-day by the freemen, who return two out of the aldermen to their court, to chuse one of them, who is sworn into his office with great pomp and solemnity, on Tuesday before Midsummer eve. The sheriffs are also annually elected, one by the court of aldermen, another by the freemen, on the last Tuesday in August, and sworn on Michaelmas-day; and the aldermen are chose by the freemen of the ward only. The common-council are chose in Midlent. The mayor is a justice of the peace, and of the *quorum*, during his year (as are also the recorder and steward) within the city and its liberties; and after his mayoralty, he is a justice of peace during life.

The worsted manufacture, for which this city has long been famous, was first brought hither by the Flemings, in the reign of Edward III. and afterwards improved to great perfection by the Dutch, who fled from the Duke d'Alva's bloody persecution, and, being settled here by Queen Elizabeth, taught the inhabitants to make great variety of worsted stuffs, as sayes, baize, serges, shalloons, &c. in which they carry on a vast trade, both at home and abroad, and are lately come to weave druggets, crapes, and other curious stuffs; of all which, it is said, this city vends to the value of no less than 100,000*l.* a-year. All hands are daily employed, and even children earn their bread in this manufacture. Eight wardens of the worsted weavers, four out of the city, and four out of the neighbouring country, are annually chose, and sworn to take care that there be no frauds in the spinning, weaving, or dying the said stuffs. Here is another company of woollen manufacturers, called the Russia Company, who have a seat in the town hall, with this inscription, *Fidelitas artes alit*. The seat of the other company under the warden, has this inscription, *Worsted reformed*. The weavers here employ all the country round in spinning yarn for them, and also use many thousand packs of yarn, which they receive from other countries, even as far as Yorkshire and Westmoreland. A calculation was lately made, from the number of looms then at work in this city only, that there were not less than one hundred and twenty thousand people employed in their manufacture of woollen, filk, &c. in and about the town,

including those employed in spinning the yarn used for such goods as are all made in this city. There is a stocking manufacture also here, which has been computed at 60,000*l.* a year.

Great Yarmouth, in the same county and about 133 miles from London, seems to have risen out of the ruins of the old Gariannonum. It is a large, well built, populous town; much increased of late years in buildings, shipping, and in people; and is infinitely superior to Norwich in situation, traffic, and wealth. The principal rendezvous of the colliers between Newcastle and London, which used to be the honour of Ipswich, seems now to be here; the roads, as they are called, opposite to the town, on the east side of it, being esteemed a safe harbour, or riding for ships; and therefore much frequented by all the vessels which pass and repass from the north parts of the world to London, or farther south; though there are dangerous banks of sands in the neighbourhood, drove thither by the high winds, on which, in violent storms, ships have been often cast away; and the inhabitants are at two or three thousand pounds a-year charge to keep the harbour clear of the sands and mud. Its being the centre of the coal trade, and its great commerce to France, Holland, and the north and east seas, and above all its herring-fishery, make Yarmouth the greatest town of trade on all the east coast of England, except Hull; for besides all its other commerce, it has the sole trade of red herrings, *i.e.* the whole herring fishery of the east coast of England; where, including the little town of Leostoff, fifty thousand barrels, which some magnify to forty thousand lasts, containing no less than forty millions of red herrings, are generally taken and cured in a year. These are, for the most part, exported by the merchants of Yarmouth, the rest by those of London, to Italy, Spain, and Portugal; which, with the camblets, crapes, and other stuffs they export to these and other places, especially Holland, to which they send a vast quantity of woollen goods every year, occasions very large business, and employs abundance of men and ships.

The fishing fair here, or season for catching herrings, is at Michaelmas; during which, all the fishing vessels, that come for the purpose of fishing for the merchants, from any part of England, as great numbers do from the coasts of Kent and Sussex, Scarborough, Whitby, &c. are allowed to catch, bring in, and sell their fish free of all toll or tax, as the burghers or freemen of Yarmouth are.

The town is bound by its charter, granted by Henry III. to send the sheriff of Norwich every year a hundred herrings baked in twenty-four pasties, which are to be delivered to the lord of the manor of East Carlton, in this county, who is to give a receipt for them, and convey them to the King, wherever he is.

The only inconvenience with which this town is reproached, is the smell, which is indeed offensive to strangers, during the fishing fair; and while the fish are landing, and under the operation of curing, that is, of smoaking, or, as they here call it, hanging the herrings. Just so London may be said to stink of smook, Wapping of tar, Seville of oil, &c. but *lucris dulcis odor*.

The town which has two parish-churches, and a beautiful handsome port, makes a very good appearance from the sea, and is as fine within as it seems to be without. It is the neatest, the compactest, and most regular built town in England, the streets being strait, and parallel with one another from north to south; and as it stands in a peninsula, between the harbour and the sea, the cross lands, which they call rows, cutting through the buildings from east and west, give a view cross all the streets, from the key to the sea. It is walled and fortified, but not very strongly. Its chief strength by land is the river or haven, which lies on the west side, with a draw-bridge over it: the port or entrance secures the south, and the sea the east; but the north end, which joins

joins it to the main-land of Norfolk, is open, and only covered with a single wall, and some old demolished works. But the beauty of Yarmouth is its market-place, the finest and best furnished of any town in England, of its bigness: and its key or wharf, which reaches from the draw-bridge almost to the south gate, is the fairest, largest, and longest in all Britain, or perhaps in Europe, that of Seville in Spain only excepted. Here the ships lie so close to one another, with their bowsprits over the shore, that one may step from it into any of the ships directly, and walk from one to another, as over a bridge, for sometimes a quarter of a mile together, or more. On this key are a custom-house and town-house, both fine buildings, as are many of the houses on it inhabited by the merchants; for the key is so spacious, that in some places it is near a hundred yards from the houses to the wharf.

From the river Yare, which gives name to this town, and is navigable to Norwich, there is a navigation into two streams, that are also navigable: one viz. the Waveney, to Beccles on the south, by which it has a trade with the north part of Suffolk, and the south parts of Norfolk. The second is called the Thyrne, and gives it a trade to the north part of the county towards North Walsham. Upwards of 1100 ships belonged to this port, near fifty years ago, besides what the merchants might be concerned in belonging to others.

Here is almost as great a fishing for mackrel in the spring, as there is for herrings in September. Besides, they have a fishing-trade to the north seas, for white fish, called the north-sea code, and a considerable trade to Norway and the Baltic for deals, oak, pitch, tar, hemp, flax, canvass, sail-cloth, and all manner of naval stores, which they consume, for the most part, in their own port, where they build a great number of ships every year.

They have a comical way of carrying people all over the town, and from the sea-side, for sixpence. They call it their coach, but it is only a wheelbarrow, drawn by one horse, without any covering. As the merchants, and even the generality of traders in Yarmouth have an universal reputation for their fair-dealing, so their seamen are esteemed the ablest and most expert in England; but the coast is noted for being one of the most dangerous and fatal to the colliers and coasters, of any all round the island. Most of the sheds, out-houses, pales, partitions, and the like, for twenty miles upon the shore, from Winterton-ness to Cromer, and farther, are made of the wrecks of ships, and the ruins of the merchants and sailors fortunes; and in some places are great piles of wrecks laid up for the purposes of building. There are no less than eight light-houses kept flaming every night, within the length of about six miles, two of which are south, at or near Goulston, between Yarmouth and Leostoff; two more at Castor, a little town to the north of Yarmouth; two more at Winterton-town: one more at Winterton-ness, the most easterly point of land in Norfolk, which is called the Lower-light; and the last is still farther north, where the shore, falling off to the north-west, warns the sailor, as he comes from the north, to keep off, that he may be sure to weather the Ness of Winterton, and go clear of the land into the roads; for from that point the shore falls off for near sixty miles to the west, as far as Lynn and Boston. There are also abundance of sea marks, beacons, and other warning pieces along the shore all the way from this place to Cromer; for the danger is this: if the ships coming from the north are taken with a hard gale of wind at south-east, or any point between north-east and south-east, so that they cannot weather Winterton-ness, they are thereby kept within the great deep bay of Cromer, called by the seamen the Devil's Throat, which is formed between the two points of Winterton, and the Spurn-head in Yorkshire; and if the wind blows hard, they are often in danger of running on shore upon the rocks about Cromer, on the north coast of Norfolk, or stranding upon the flat shore

shore between Cromer and Wells. All they have to trust to then, is good ground-tackle to ride it out : and if they cannot, by reason of the violence of the sea, then to run into the bottom of the great bay, to Lynn or Boston, which is a push very difficult, and ever desperate, so that sometimes in this distress, as I am told, whole fleets have been lost here all together ; particularly in 1696, near two hundred sail of colliers and coasters, being too far embayed to weather Winterton-ness, and running away for Lynn Deep, missed their way in the dark, so that they were all drove ashore, and dashed to pieces, with the loss of about a thousand people. Ships bound northward are in the same danger ; for if, after passing by Winterton-ness, they are taken short with a north-east wind, and cannot put back into the roads, as very often happens, they are drove upon the same coast, and embayed in like manner.

At the entrance of the harbour, on a little slip of land, there is a little platform with guns, which is all its security, the great guns (formerly planted round the town-walls) being removed by King Charles II.

Derby, the county-town, about a hundred and twenty-two miles from London, has its name from being a park, or shelter for deer, which is partly confirmed by the arms of the town, viz. a buck couchant in a park. It stands on the west side of the river Derwent, and the south side of it is watered by a little rivulet, called Mertin-brook, which has nine bridges over it before it falls into the Derwent. It has a fair stone-bridge of five arches over the latter, on which there formerly stood a chapel dedicated to St. Mary, now converted into a dwelling-house.

The town is neat, large, well built, and populous, and is divided into five parishes, which have each their church ; but that of All-Saints, or All-Hallows, is the most remarkable for its light and architecture, having a beautiful Gothic tower, which, by an inscription in the church, appears to have been erected about the reign of Queen Mary, and one half of the expence paid by the batchelors and maidens of the town.

The trade of this town is not very considerable ; for though it is a staple for wool, yet it depends chiefly upon a retail trade in buying corn and selling it again to the highland countries, and in making malt, and brewing ale, of both which great quantities are sent to London.

This town has a curiosity to boast of, which is the only one of its kind in the three kingdoms, viz. a machine * erected by Sir Thomas Lombe, an alderman of London, for the manufacture of silk, which was brought out of Italy at the hazard of his life. It is a mill in an island of the Derwent, facing the town, which works the three capital engines made use of by the Italians, for making organzine, or thrown silk, which, before the same was erected, was purchased by the English merchants from Italy, with ready money. By this wonderful piece of machinery, one hand-mill twists as much silk as could be done before by fifty, and in a better manner. The engine contains 26,586 wheels, and 97,746 movements ; which works 73,726 yards of silk-thread every time the water-wheel goes round, which is three times in a minute, and 318,504,960 yards in one day and night. One water-wheel gives motion to all the rest of the wheels and movements, of which any one may be stopt separately. One fire-engine likewise conveys warm air to every individual part of the machine ; and the

* This machine was thought of such importance by the legislature, that in 1732, on the expiration of the patent, which the introducer of it had obtained for fourteen years, the Parliament granted Sir Thomas 14,000*l.* as a further recompence for the very great hazard and expence he had incurred in introducing and erecting the engine, on condition of his allowing a perfect model to be taken of it, in order to secure and perpetuate the art of making the same for the future. The model of it is kept in the record office in the tower of London.

whole is governed by one regulator. The house which contains this engine is five or six stories high, and half a quarter of a mile in length.

Halifax, in the county of York, about 174 miles from London, stands on the left side of the Calder, extending from west to east upon the gentle descent of a hill. It is a parish, the most populous, if not the most extensive in England, being twelve miles in diameter, and above thirty in circumference; and having twelve chapels in it under the mother-church of Halifax, (a vicaridge) two whereof are parochial, besides sixteen meeting-houses, all which, except the quakers, are called chapels, and most of them have bells and burying-grounds. They sent out 12,000 men, so long ago as the reign of Queen Elizabeth, to join her forces against the rebels, under the Earl of Westmoreland; and in Camden's time, they used to say, that they could reckon more men in their parish, than any kind of animal whatever: "Whereas" says Camden "in the most populous and fruitful places of England elsewhere, one shall find thousands of sheep, but so few men in proportion, that one would think they had given place to sheep and oxen, or were devoured by them." He then accounts for the prodigious increase of the inhabitants, by admiring the industry of a people, "who, notwithstanding an unprofitable barren soil, not fit to live in, have so flourished," says he, "by the cloth trade (which they had not followed above seventy years) that they are very rich, and have gained a reputation for it above their neighbours."

If such was the character and condition of the place then, what must it be since the great demand of kerseys for cloathing the troops abroad? Some will have it, that it is thereby increased one-fourth within these sixty years, especially as they have lately entered into the manufacture of shalloons, of which few, if any, were ever made in these parts before; so that it has been calculated that 100,000 pieces are made in a year in this parish alone, at the same time, that almost as many kerseys are made here as ever. And it has been affirmed, that one dealer here has traded by commission for 60,000*l.* a year to Holland and Hamburgh, in the single article of kerseys.

'Tis remarked, that this and the neighbouring towns are all so employed in the woollen manufacture, that they scarce sow more corn than will keep their poultry; and that they feed very few oxen or sheep; so that what corn they have, comes chiefly out of the East-Riding, Lincolnshire and Nottinghamshire, their black cattle from thence and from Lancashire, their sheep and mutton from the adjacent counties, their butter from the East and North Ridings, and their cheese from Cheshire and Warwickshire. Their markets are thronged by such prodigious numbers of people to sell their manufactures, and buy provisions, that none are more crowded in the north of England, except those of Leeds and Wakefield.

Leeds, in the same county, is about 186 miles from London. The name is derived by some from the British word *llwydd*, i. e. a pleasant situation, from the Saxon word *leod*, i. e. people. It stands on the north side of the river Aire, over which it has a magnificent stone-bridge to the suburbs, which are very large. It has been a long time famous for the woollen manufacture, and is one of the largest and most flourishing towns in the county.

It is surprising to a stranger, when he first comes to this town, to see a long street full of shops, or standings piled up with pieces of cloth for sale on a market-day. The merchants of this place, York and Hull, ship them off at the latter, for Holland, Hamburgh, and the north, from whence they are dispersed through the Netherlands, Germany, Poland, &c.

Its cloth market was formerly on the bridge; but on the great increase of that trade, it has been sold in that called the High-street, or Bridgegate-street, where, every market-

market-day in the morning, numbers of treffels are ranged and covered with boards; and upon the ringing of the market-bell at six in the summer, and seven in the winter, the clothiers in the inns bring out their cloth. When the bell ceases, the chapmen come into the market, where they match their patterns, and treat for the cloth in a few words, and with a whisper, because the clothiers stand so near each other; and perhaps 20,000*l.* worth of cloth is sold in an hour's time. The bell rings again at half an hour after eight, upon which the scene is changed, the clothiers and their chapmen, with their treffels, disappear, and make room for the linen-drapers, hardware-men, shoemakers, fruiterers, &c. At the same time the shambles are well stored with all sorts of fish and flesh; and of apples 500 loads have been counted here on a day. There is a magnificent hall in the towu, where they also sell great quantities of white cloth. It has a cupola and bell at top likē Blackwell-hall in London, to give notice when the sale begins. There is a noble moot or guild hall, adorned with a fine statue of Queen Anne in white marble, erected by alderman Milner. Both these halls were erected about 1714. The river Aire being navigable here by boats, opens a communication from this town with Wakefield, York, and Hull, to which places it exports other goods, besides the woollen manufacture, and furnishes the city of York with coals.

Sunderland, in the county-palatine of Durham, and about 264 miles from London, stands on the south bank of the river Ware, and is a populous well built borough and sea-port, with a very fine church: the sea surrounds it almost at high water, making it a peninsula. It is much talked of for the coal trade; but the Sunderland coal burns so slowly, that it is said to make three fires; it has much pyrites with it, and burns to a heavy redish cinder, which is iron by the magnet: yet were this harbour so deep as to admit ships of the same burden as the river Tine does, it would be a great loss to Newcastle. However, the place is enriched by the coal trade; for great quantities of it are found upon the banks of the river Ware (which here falls into the sea) and of the best sort of coals too, as those in particular called Lumley coal, dug up in the Earl of Scarborough's park near Chester-in-the-Street, and several others: but the port of Sunderland is barred up, and the ships are obliged to take in their loading of coals in the open road, so that it is sometimes very dangerous to the keelmen or lightermen that bring down the coal, who seldom dare to venture off to the ships, and are often lost in the attempt. The ships therefore, which load here, are generally smaller than those at Newcastle; but then they have one advantage of the Newcastle men, viz. that in case of a contrary wind, particularly at north-east, which, though fair when they are at sea, yet suffers not the ships at Newcastle to get out of the Tine; the ships at Sunderland riding in the open sea, are ready to sail as soon as they can get in their loading; so that it has been known they have gone away, delivered their coals at London, and bearing up against the wind in their return, have got back to Sunderland before the ships at Shields, which were laden at their coming away, had been able to get over the bar. A great many ships belong to this port, and abundance of able seamen, who are esteemed among the colliers as some of the best in the country.

South Shields, or Sheales, in the same county, is so called to distinguish it from North Shields in Northumberland, and because it lies on the south side of the mouth of the river Tine, as the other does on the north side. This is of great note for its salt-works, here being above 200 pans for boiling sea-water into salt, of which such a vast quantity is made here, as not only furnishes the city of London, but all the towns on or near the coast between this place and that city, and upon the navigable rivers that come into the sea on that side; also all the counties which are furnished by the navigation of the Thames, and the meadows to the west and south of London. 'Tis said, that in
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these works they consume near 100,000 chaldron of coals every year, as may be partly conjectured from the vast mountains of ashes which are raised near the works, there being no other way to dispose of them. This place is therefore chiefly inhabited by the people employed in those works, though there are also several substantial captains or masters of ships, who live on this side, all chiefly employed, not only in the salt-works, but the coal trade, this as well as North Shields being the usual station for most of the Newcastle coal fleet, till the coals are brought down from Newcastle in barges and lighters.

Liverpool, Litherpool, or Lirpool, in Lancashire, is about 183 miles from London. 'Tis not a very ancient town, but is very neat and populous, and the most flourishing sea-port town in these parts, pretending to rival, if not to excel the city of Bristol, the second port in England; its customs being increased eight or ten fold within thirty years past: and though the place is said to be above three times as large as it was in the beginning of the late King James's reign, yet abundance of new houses are building every day. The inhabitants are universally merchants; and notwithstanding their out of the way situation, drive an incredible trade, with great success, and very large stocks, to all the northern parts of the world, as to Hamburg, Norway, and the Baltic; to the British colonies in America; to Guinea and Ireland; and also to France, Spain, Portugal, and Italy: so that there is no trade but that of Turkey, Greenland, and the East Indies, in which they are not concerned. As it imports almost all kind of foreign goods, it has consequently a large inland trade, and shares that to Ireland and Wales with Bristol, as follows: As Bristol trades chiefly to the south and west parts of Ireland, from Dublin in the east, to Gallway in the west, this town has all the trade of the east and north shores from Dublin to Londonderry; as Bristol has the trade of South Wales, this has great part of that of North Wales; as Bristol has the south-west counties of England, and some north of it as high as Bridgenorth, if not to Shrewsbury; Liverpool has all the north counties, besides what goods it sends to Cheshire and Staffordshire, by the new navigation of the rivers Mersee, the Weaver, and the Dane, even so near to the Trent, that its goods are carried by land to Burton. The merchants of Liverpool are also concerned with those of Londonderry in the fishery on the north coast of Ireland. 'Tis moreover the most convenient and most frequented passage to Ireland, for it stands at the mouth of the Mersee river, or Liverpool water, as the sailors call it, who see it open to them on the right, as soon as they have passed Chester water by sea north; and though this river is not near so large as the Dee, no not including the Weaver, another river which falls into the same mouth; yet the opening, at least as high as Liverpool, is infinitely before it, for hither ships of any burthen may come up with their full lading, and ride just before the town, if not go into their new wet dock. The harbour is defended on the south side by a castle built by King John, and on the west by a tower on the river Mersee, which is a stately strong piece of building, but the town is quite open and unfortified. It has three handsome churches. They have built a fine new church, besides two which they had before, and several meeting houses; and all the new buildings are very handsome in large spacious clean streets, the houses built of brick, and as like London as possible, only not quite so high; though if some of them were in Italy, they would pass for palaces. They have a fine town house standing upon twelve free-stone pillars and arches, and under it is their exchange. The wet-dock with its iron flood-gates, at the east end of the town, is the only thing of its kind in Britain, London excepted, it being a most noble work; for though it has been attended with a very great expence, it fully answers the end, by accommodating the town in all the essential parts of marine business, whether for laying up ships, or
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fitting them out, it being capable of containing eighty or a hundred sail, which may lie very quiet here, being sheltered by the town from the west and north winds, and by the hills from the east winds. The custom-house, a commodious elegant structure, joins to it. There is a navigation from hence farther up the Mersee, and that for ships of burden too, as high almost as Warrington; and also up the south channel, which they call the river Weaver; but 'tis chiefly for two things, 1. For rock salt, which is dug out of the earth, both in this county and Cheshire, and shipped off here in great quantities, not only for Devonshire, Bristol, and other parts of Somerselshire, but round to London, Colchester, and several other places in the south of England, where it is dissolved in sea-water, then boiled up again into a stronger and finer salt, and is then as good as that strong sort called salt upon salt, which the Dutch make of the St. Ube's salt, and with which they cure their herrings. They also ship off great quantities of Cheshire cheese here.

Manchester in the same county, about 166 miles from London, stands near the confluence of the Irk with the Irwell, not above three miles from the Mersee, and is so much improved in this and the last century above its neighbours, that though it is not a corporation, nor sends members to Parliament, yet, as an inland town, it has perhaps the best trade of any in these northern parts, and surpasses all the towns hereabouts in buildings and numbers of people, manufactures, and its spacious market-place and college.

The fustian manufacture, called Manchester cottons, for which it has been famous for almost one hundred and fifty years, has been very much improved of late by some inventions of dying and printing; which, with the great variety of other manufactures, known by the name of Manchester goods, as ticking, tapes, filleting, and linen cloth, enrich not only the town, but the whole parish, and render the people industrious.—Above a hundred years ago, there were reckoned near twenty thousand communicants in this town and parish, since which time the inhabitants are much more numerous in proportion to the increase of their trade. It may with propriety be stiled the greatest mere village in England; for it is not so much as a town strictly speaking, the highest magistrate being a constable or headborough; yet it is more populous than York, Norwich, or most cities in England, and as big as two or three of the lesser ones put together: for the people here, including those in the suburbs on the other side of the river, are reckoned at no less than fifty thousand; which is ten times the number of people that Preston has, and it is said to return more money in one month than that does in fifteen. Here is not only a spacious market-place, but a modern exchange. Here is an ancient, though a firm stone-bridge over the Irwell, which is built exceeding high, because as the river comes from the mountainous part of the country, it rises sometimes four or five yards in one night, and falls next day as suddenly. For the space of three miles above the town, it has no less than sixty mills upon it. The weavers have looms here that work twenty-four laces at a time, an invention for which they are obliged to the Dutch.

Wolverhampton in Staffordshire, about 117 miles from London, was anciently called Hampton; and so large a parish, that it was near thirty miles in compass, and contained seventeen great villages. A priory was formerly built here by King Edgar, as Sir William Dugdale says, at the request of his dying sister Wulfruna; and for this reason the place was called Wulfrune's Hampton, which is since corrupted to Wolverhampton. It stands upon high ground, and is a populous town, well built, and the streets well paved; but all the water the town is supplied with, except what falls from the skies, comes from four weak springs of different qualities, which go by the names of Pudding-well,

well, Horse-well, Washing-well, and Meat-well; all appropriated to their several uses. From the last they fetch all the water which they use for boiling or brewing, in leather-buckets laid across a horse, with a funnel at the top, by which they fill them; and to the other three wells they carry their tripe, horses, and linen. To this scarcity of water, and the high situation of the place, is ascribed its healthy state, in spite of the adjacent coal-mines; and it is said the plague was hardly ever known here, but the small-pox often, which has been observed to be an indication of the wholesomeness of the air.

The chief manufacturers of this town are locksmiths, who are reckoned the most expert of that trade in England. They are so curious in this art, that they can contrive a lock so, that if a servant be sent into the closet with the master-key, or their own, it will shew how many times that servant has gone in at any distance of time, and how many times the lock has been shot for a whole year, some of them being made to discover five hundred or a thousand times. We are informed also, that a very fine lock was made in this town, sold for 20*l.* which had a set of chimes in it that would go at any hour the owner should think fit.

N. B.—As for the city of London, its trade, &c. being so extensive, I shall make it the subject of the ensuing chapter.

CHAP. IV.—*Containing a Description of the City of London; both in regard to its Extent, Buildings, Government, Trade, &c.*

LONDON, the capital of the kingdom of England, taken in its largest extent, comprehends the cities of London and Westminster, with their respective suburbs, and the borough of Southwark, with the buildings contiguous thereto on the south side of the river, both on the east and west sides of the bridge.

The length thereof, if we measure it in a direct line from Hyde-park gate, on the west side of Grosvenor-square, to the furthest buildings that are contiguous in Limehouse, that is, from west to east, is very near five miles in a direct line; but if we take in the turnings and windings of the streets, it cannot be less than six miles. The breadth in many places from north to south is about two miles and a half, but in others not above a mile and a half; the circumference of the whole being about sixteen miles.

The situation next the river is hilly, and in some places very steep; but the streets are for the most part upon a level, and the principal of them no where to be paralleled for their length, breadth, beauty, and regularity of the buildings, any more than the spacious and magnificent squares with which this city abounds.

As to the dimensions of the city, within the walls, I find that the late wall on the land side from the Tower in the east, to the mouth of Fleet-ditch in the west, was two miles wanting ten poles; and the line along the Thames, where there has been no walls for many hundred years, if ever, contains from the Tower in the east, to the mouth of the same ditch in the west, a mile and forty poles; which added to the circuit of the wall, on the land side, makes in the whole three miles thirty poles; and as it is of an irregular figure, narrow at each end, and the broadest part not half the length of it, the content of the ground within the walls upon the most accurate survey, does not contain more than three hundred and eighty acres; which is not a third part of the contents of our extensive city of Lisbon: but then this must be remembered, Lisbon contains a great quantity of arable and waste ground within its walls, whereas London is one continued pile of buildings. The city gates are at this day eight, besides posterns,

viz. 1. Aldgate; 2, Bishopsgate; 3. Moorgate; 4. Cripplegate; 5. Aldersgate; 6. Newgate; 7. Ludgate; and, 8. The Bridgegate.

1. Aldgate, or Ealdgate, in the east, is of great antiquity, even as old as the days of King Edgar who mentions it in a charter to the knights of Knighton-Guild. Upon the top of it, to the eastward, is placed a golden sphere; and on the upper battlements, the figures of two foldiers as centinels: beneath, in a large square, King James I. is represented standing in gilt armour, at whose feet are a lion and unicorn, both couchant, the first the supporter of England, and the other for Scotland. On the west side of the gate is the figure of fortune, finely gilded and carved, with a prosperous sail over her head, standing on a globe, overlooking the city. Beneath it, is the King's arms, with the usual motto, *Dieu et mon droit*, and under it, *Vivat rex*. A little lower, on one side, is the figure of a woman, being the emblem of peace, with a dove in one hand, and a gilded wreath or garland in the other; and on the other side is the figure of charity, with a child at her breast, and another in her hand; and over the arch of the gate is this inscription, viz. *Senatus populusque Londinensis fecit, 1609*, and under it, *Humphrey Weld, Mayor*; in whose mayoralty it was finished.

2. Bishopsgate, which stands north-west of Aldgate, is supposed to have been built by some bishop about the year 1200. It was afterwards several times repaired by the merchants of the Hanse Towns, on account of the confirmation of their privileges in this city. The figures of the two bishops on the north side are pretty much defaced, as are the city-arms engraven on the south side of it.

3. Aldersgate, the ancient north gate of the city, stands to the westward of Bishopsgate. On the north, or out-side of it, is the figure of King James I. on horseback, who entered the city at this gate when he came from Scotland, on his accession to the throne of England. Over the head of this figure are the arms of England, Scotland and Ireland; and on one side the image of the prophet Jeremy, with this text engraved, "Then shall enter into the gates of this city, kings and princes sitting on the throne of David, riding on chariots and on horses, they and their princes, the men of Judah, and the inhabitants of Jerusalem *." And on the other side, the figure of the prophet Samuel, with the following passage, "And Samuel said unto all Israel, Behold, I have hearkened unto your voice in all that you have said unto me, and have made a king over you †." On the south, or inside of the gate, is the effigy of King James I. sitting on his throne in his robes.

4. Newgate, so called from its being built later than the other principal gates, is situated on the north west corner of the city, said to be erected in the reign of Henry I. or King Stephen, when the way through Ludgate was interrupted by enlarging the cathedral of St. Paul's and the church-yard about it. This gate hath been the county-jail for Middlesex, at least five hundred years. The west, or outside of the gate is adorned with three ranges of pilasters and their entablements of the Tuscan order. Over the lowest, is a circular pediment, and above it the King's arms. The intercolumns are four niches, and as many figures in them, well carved, and large as the life. The east, or inside of the gate, is adorned with a range of pilasters with entablements as the other, and in three niches are the figures of justice, mercy, and truth, with this inscription, viz. "This part of Newgate was begun to be repaired in the mayoralty of Sir James Campel, Knight, anno 1630, and finished in the mayoralty of Sir Robert Ducie, Bart. anno 1631; and being damnified by the fire in 1666, it was repaired in the mayoralty of Sir George Waterman, anno 1672."

* Jer. xvii. 25.

† 1 Sam. xxii. 1.

5. Ludgate, the ancient western gate of the city, stands between Newgate and the Thames, built by King Lud, about threescore years before the birth of our Saviour. It was repaired in the reign of King John, *anno* 1215, and afterwards in the year 1260, when it was adorned with the figures of King Lud, and his two sons, Androgeus and Theomantius; but at the reformation, in the reign of Edward VI. some zealous people struck off all their heads, looking upon images of all kinds to be popish and idolatrous. In the reign of Queen Mary, new heads were placed on the bodies of these kings, and so remained till the 28th of Queen Elizabeth, *anno* 1586, when the gate, being very ruinous, was pulled down, and beautifully rebuilt: the east, or inside whereof, was adorned with four pilasters and entablature of the Dorick order, and in the intercolumns were placed the figures of King Lud and his two sons (who are supposed to have succeeded him) in their British habits again; and above them the queen's arms, viz. those of France and England quarterly, the supporters a lion and a dragon. It was afterwards repaired and beautified, *anno* 1699, Sir Francis Child, lord-mayor. The west, or outside of the gate, is adorned with two pilasters and entablature of the Ionick order; also two columns and a pediment adorning a nich, wherein is placed a good statue of Queen Elizabeth in her robes and the *regalia*; and over it the queen's arms between the city-supporters, placed at some distance. This gate was made a prison for debtors who were free of the city, *anno* 1 Richard II. 1378, Nicholas Brembar then mayor, and confirmed such by the mayor and common-council, *anno* 1382, John Northampton, mayor.

The Tower of London is situated at the south-east end of the city, on the river Thames, and consists in reality of a great number of towers or forts, built at several times, which still retain their several names; though at present most of them, together with a little town and church, are inclosed within one wall and ditch, and compose but one intire fortress.

It was the vulgar opinion, that the Tower was built by Julius Cæsar; but, as I have before shewn, history informs us, that Cæsar made no stay in England, that he erected no town or fortress, unless that with which he inclosed his ships on the coast of Kent, nor left a single garrison or soldier in the island on his departure.

This Tower, as now encompassed, stands upon twelve acres of ground, and something more, being of an irregular form, but approaching near to that of an oblong, one of the longest sides lying next the river, from whence it rises gradually towards the north, by a pretty deep ascent, to the armoury, which stands upon the highest ground in the Tower, overlooking the White Tower built by William the Conqueror, and the remains of the castle below it on the Thames side, said to be built by William Rufus.

As to the strength of the place, the works being all antique, would not be able to hold out four and twenty hours against an army prepared for a siege: The ditch indeed is of a great depth, and upwards of an hundred feet broad, into which the water of the Thames may be introduced at pleasure; but I question whether the walls on the inside would bear the firing of their own guns: Certain it is, two or three battering-pieces would soon lay them even with the ground, though, after all, the ditch alone is sufficient to defend it against a sudden assault. There are several small towers upon the walls; those of the largest dimensions, and which appear the most formidable, are the Divelin Tower, on the north-west; and the Martin Tower, on the north-east; and St. Thomas's Tower on the river, by Traytors' Bridge; which I take to be part of the castle said to be built by William Rufus. There is also a large tower on the outside the ditch, called the Lions' Tower, on the south-west corner, near which is the principal gate and bridge by which coaches and carriages enter the Tower; and there are two posterns

posterns with bridges over the ditch to the wharf on the Thames side, one whereof is called Traytor's-Bridge, under which state prisoners used to enter the Tower.

The principal places and buildings within the Tower are, 1. The parochial church of St. Peter, (for the Tower is a parish of itself, in which are fifty houses and upwards, inhabited by the governor, deputy-governor, warders, and other officers belonging to the fortress.)

2. To the eastward of the church stands a noble pile of building, usually called the armoury, begun by King James II. and finished by King William III. being three hundred and ninety feet in length, and sixty in breadth: The stately door-case on the south-side is adorned with four columns, entablature and triangular pediment, of the Dorick order. Under the pediment are the king's arms, with enrichments of trophy-work, very ornamental. It consists of two lofty rooms, reaching the whole length of the building: In the lower room is a compleat train of artillery, consisting of brass cannon and mortars fit to attend an army of an hundred thousand men; but none of the cannon I observe there, were above four and twenty pounders; the large battering-pieces, which carry balls of thirty-two and forty-eight pounds weight, I perceive, are in the king's store-houses at Deptford, Woolwich, Chatham, and Portsmouth. In the armoury also we find a great many of the little cohorn-mortars, so called from the Dutch engineer Cohorn, who invented them for firing a great number of hand-grenades from them at once; with other extraordinary pieces cast at home, or taken from the enemy.

In the room over the artillery is the armoury of small arms, of equal dimensions with that underneath, in which are placed, in admirable order, muskets and other small arms for fourscore thousand men, most of them of the newest make, having the best locks, barrels and stocks, that can be contrived for service; neither the locks or barrels indeed are wrought, but I look upon them to be the more durable and serviceable, and much easier cleaned. There are abundance of hands always employed in keeping them bright, and they are so artfully laid up, that any one piece may be taken down without moving another. Besides these, which with pilasters of pikes furnish all the middle of the room from top to bottom, leaving only a walk through the middle, and another on each side; the north and south walls of the armoury are each of them adorned with eight pilasters of pikes and pistols of the Corinthian order, whose inter-columns are chequer-work of carbines and pistols; waves of the sea in cutlasses, swords and bayonets; half moons, semicircles, and a target of bayonets; the form of a battery in swords and pistols; suns, with circles of pistols; a pair of gates in halberts and pistols; the Witch of Endor, as it is called, within three elipses of pistols; the backbone of a whale in carbines; a fiery serpent, Jupiter and the Hydra in bayonets, &c. But nothing looks more beautiful and magnificent than the four lofty wreathed columns formed with pistols in the middle of the room, which seem to support it. They shew us also some other arms, which are only remarkable for the use they have been put to; as the two swords of state, carried before the Pretender when he invaded Scotland in the year 1715; and the arms taken from the Spaniards who landed in Scotland, in the year 1719, &c.

The small arms were placed in this beautiful order by one Mr. Harris, originally a blacksmith, who was properly the forger of his own fortune, having raised himself by his merit: He had a place or pension granted him by the government for this piece of service in particular, which he richly deserved, no nation in Europe being able to shew a magazine of small arms so good in their kind, and so ingeniously disposed. In the place where the armoury now stands was formerly a bowling green, a garden, and
some

some buildings, which were demolished to make room for the grand arsenal I have been describing.

In the horse-armoury the most remarkable things are some of the English kings on horseback in compleat armour, among which the chief are Edward III. Henries V. and VII. King Charles I. and II. and King William, and a suit of silver armour, said to belong to John of Gaunt, seven feet and a half high. Here also they shew us the armour of the Lord Kingsale, with the sword he took from the French general, which gained him the privilege of being covered in the king's presence, which his posterity enjoy to this day.

The office of ordnance is in the Tower, with the several apartments of the officers that belong to it, who have the direction of all the arms, ammunition, artillery, magazines, and stores of war in the kingdom.

The White Tower is a lofty, square, stone building, with a turret at each angle, standing on the declivity of the hill, a little below the armoury, and disengaged from the other buildings, where some thousand barrels of powder were formerly kept; but great part of the publick magazine of powder is now distributed in the several yards and store-houses belonging to the government, as at Woolwich, Chatham, Portsmouth, Plymouth, &c. to prevent accidents, I presume; for should such a prodigious quantity of powder take fire, it must be of fatal consequence to the city, as well as the Tower. The main guard of the Tower, with the lodgings of the officers, are on the east side of this building.

In the chapel of the White Tower, usually called Cæsar's Chapel, and in a large room adjoining on the east side thereof, sixty-four foot long, and thirty-one broad, are kept many ancient records, such as privy-seals in several reigns, bills, answers, and depositions in chancery, in the reigns of Queen Elizabeth, King James I. and King Charles I. writs of *distingas*, *superfedeas*, *de excommunicato capiendo*, and other writs relating to the courts of law; but the records of the greatest importance are lodged in the Tower called Wakefield Tower, consisting of statute-rolls from the 6th of Edward I. to the 8th of Edward III.

Parliament-rolls beginning *anno* 5 of Edward II. and ending with the reign of Edward IV.

Patent-rolls beginning *anno* 3 of John, and ending with the reign of Edward IV. In these are contained grants of offices, lands, tenements, temporalities, &c. passing under the great seal.

Charter-rolls, from the 1st of King John, to the end of Edward IV. in which are inrollments of grants, and confirmations of liberties and privileges to cities and towns corporate, and to private persons, as markets, fairs, free warren, common of pasture, waifs, strays, felons goods, &c.

The foundations of abbies and priories, of colleges and schools, together with lands and privileges granted to them.

The patents of creation of noblemen.

Close rolls, from the 6th of King John, to the end of Edward IV. in which are writs of various kinds, but more especially on the back of the roll are entered the writs of summons to parliament, both to the lords and commons, and of the bishops and inferior clergy to convocations: There are also proclamations, and inrollments of deeds between party and party.

French rolls, beginning *anno* 1. of Edward II. and ending with Edward IV. in which are leagues and treaties with the kings of France, and other matters relating to that kingdom.

Scotch rolls, containing transactions with that kingdom.

Rome, touching the affairs of that see.

Vascon rolls, relating to Gascoign.

There are also other rolls and records of different natures.

In this tower are also kept the inquisitions *post mortem*, from the 1st year of King Henry III. to the 3d year of Richard III.

The inquisitions *ad quod damnum*, from the 1st of Edward II. to the end of Henry V.

Writs of fummons, and returns to parliament, from the reign of Edward I. to the 17th of Edward IV.

Popes bulls, and original letters from foreign princes.

All which were put into order, and secured in excellent wainscot presses, by order of the house of peers, in the year 1719 and 1720. Attendance is given at this office, and searches may be made from seven o'clock in the morning to eleven, and from one to five in the afternoon, unless in December, January and February, when the office is open only from eight to eleven in the morning, and from one to four, except holy-days.

The next office I shall mention is the Mint, where, at present, all the money in the kingdom is coined: This makes a considerable street in the Tower, wherein are apartments for the officers belonging to it. The principal officers are, 1. The warden, who receives the gold and silver bullion, and pays the full value for it, the charge being defrayed by a small duty on wines. 2. The master and worker, who takes the bullion from the warden, causes it to be melted, delivers it to the moneyers, and when it is minted receives it from them again. 3. The comptroller, who sees that the money be made according to the just assize, overlooks the officers, and controlls them. 4. The assay-master, who sees that the money be according to the standard of fineness. 5. The auditor, who takes the accounts, and makes them up. 6. The surveyor-general, who takes care that the fineness be not altered in the melting. And, 7. The weigher and teller.

The Jewel-office, where the *regalia* are repositied, stands near the east end of the Armoury. A list is usually given to those who come daily to see these curiosities in the Jewel-house, a copy whereof follows, *viz.*

A list of his Majesty's regalia, besides plate, and other rich things, at the Jewel-house in the Tower of London.

1. The imperial crown, which all the kings of England have been crowned with, ever since Edward the Confessor's time.

2. The orb, or globe, held in the king's left hand at the coronation; on the top of which is a jewel near an inch and half in height.

3. The royal scepter with the cross, which has another jewel of great value under it.

4. The scepter with the dove, being the emblem of peace.

5. St. Edward's staff, all beaten gold, carried before the king at the coronation.

6. A rich salt-sellar of state, the figure of the Tower, used on the king's table at the coronation.

7. Curtana, or the sword of mercy, borne between the two swords of justice, the spiritual and temporal, at the coronation.

8. A noble silver font, double gilt, that the kings and royal family were christened in.

9. A large silver fountain, presented to King Charles II. by the town of Plymouth.

10. Queen Anne's diadem, or circlet which her majesty wore in proceeding to her coronation.

11. The coronation-crown made for the late Queen Mary.

12. The

12. The rich crown of state that his majesty wears on his throne in parliament, in which is a large emerald seven inches round, a pearl the finest in the world, and a ruby of inestimable value.

13. A globe and scepter made for the late Queen Mary.

14. An ivory scepter with a dove, made for the late King James's queen.

15. The golden spurs and the *armillas* that are worn at the coronation.

There is also an apartment in the Tower where noble prisoners used to be confined, but of late years some of less quality have been sent thither.

The Tower where the lions and other savage animals are kept is on the right hand, on the outside the ditch, as we enter the fortrefs. These consist of lions, leopards, tygers, eagles, vultures, and such other wild creatures as foreign princes or sea-officers have presented to the British kings and queens.

Not far from the Tower stands London-Bridge. This bridge has nineteen arches besides the draw-bridge, and is built with hewn stone, being one thousand two hundred feet in length, and seventy four in breadth, whereof the houses built on each side take up twenty-seven feet, and the street between the houses twenty feet; there being only three vacancies about the middle of the bridge where there are no houses, but a low stone wall, with an iron pallisade, through which is a fine view of the shipping and vessels in the river. This street over the bridge is as much thronged, and has as brisk a trade as any street in the city; and the perpetual passage of coaches and carriages makes it troublesome walking on it, there being no posts to keep off carriages, as in other streets. The middle vacancy was left for a draw-bridge, which used formerly to be drawn up when shipping passed that way; but no vessels come above the bridge at this day but such as can strike their masts, and pass under the arches. Four of the arches on the north side of the bridge are now taken up with mills and engines, that raise the water to a great height, for the supply of the city: This brings in a large revenue, which, with the rents of the houses on the bridge, and other houses and lands that belong to it, are applied as far as is necessary to the repair of it, by the officers appointed for that service, who are, a comptroller and two bridge-masters, with their subordinate officers: And in some years, it is said, not less than three thousand pounds are laid out in repairing and supporting this mighty fabrick, though it be never suffered to run much to decay.

I come next to describe that circuit of ground which lies without the walls, but within the freedom and jurisdiction of the city of London: And this is bounded by a line, which begins at Temple-bar, and extends itself by many turnings and windings through part of Shear-lane, Bell-yard, Chancery-lane, by the Rolls-liberty, &c. into Holborn, almost against Gray's-Inn-lane, where there is a bar (consisting of posts, rails, and a chain) usually called Holborn bars; from whence it passes with many turnings and windings by the south end of Brook-street, Furnival's-Inn, Leather-lane, the south-end of Hatton-garden, Ely-house, Field-lane, and Chick-lane, to the common-sewer; then to Cow-cross, and so to Smithfield-bars; from whence it runs with several windings between Long-lane and Charterhouse-lane to Goswell-street, and so up that street northward to the Bars.

From these Bars in Goswell-street, where the manor of Finsbury begins, the line extends by Golden-lane to the posts and chain in Whitecross-street, and from thence to the posts and chain in Grub-street; and then runs through Ropemakers-alley to the posts and chain in the highway from Moorgate, and from thence by the north side of Moorfields; after which it runs northwards to Nortonfalgate, meeting with the bars

in Bishopsgate-street, and from thence runs eastward into Spittlefields, abutting all along upon Nortonfalgate.

From Nortonfalgate it returns southwards by Spittlefields, and then south-east by Wentworth-street, to the bars in Whitechapel: From hence it inclines more southerly to the Little Minories and Goodman's-fields; from whence it returns westward to the posts and chain in the Minories, and so on more westerly till it comes to London-wall, abutting on the Tower-liberty, and there it ends. The ground comprehended betwixt this line and the city-wall, contains about three hundred acres.

There is no wall or fence, as has been hinted already, to separate the freedom of the city from that part of the town which lies in the county of Middlesex, only posts and chains at certain places, and one gate at the west end of Fleet-street, which goes by the name of Temple-bar.

This gate resembles a triumphal arch: It is built of hewn-stone, each side being adorned with four pilasters, their entablature, and an arched pediment of the Corinthian order. The intercolumns are niches replenished; those within the Bar towards the east, with the figures of King James I. and his queen; and those without the Bar, with the figures of King Charles I. and King Charles II. It is enriched also with *cornucopias*, and has two large *cartouches*, by way of supporters to the whole; and on the inside of the gate is the following inscription, viz. "Erected in the year 1670, Sir Samuel Starling, mayor: continued in the year 1671, Sir Richard Ford, lord-mayor: and finished in the year 1672, Sir George Waterman, lord-mayor."

The city is divided into twenty-six wards or governments, each having its peculiar officers, as alderman, common-council, &c. But all are subject to the lord-mayor, the supreme magistrate of this great metropolis. Of each of these wards take the following account.

1. Portoken ward, is situate without Aldgate, the most easterly ward belonging to the city; and extends from Aldgate eastward to the bars. The chief streets and places comprehended in it, are part of Whitechapel-street, the Minories, Houndsditch, and the west side of Petticoat-lane.

Whitechapel is a handsome broad street, by which we enter the town from the east. The south side, or great part of it, is taken up by butchers who deal in the wholesale way, selling whole carcases of veal, mutton, and lamb (which come chiefly out of Essex) to the town butchers. On the north side are a great many good inns, and several considerable tradesmen's houses, who serve the east part of England with such goods and merchandize as London affords. On the south side is a great market for hay three times a week.

Tower ward extends along the Thames from the Tower on the east almost to Billingsgate on the west, and that part of the Tower itself which lies to the westward of the White Tower is held by some to be within this ward. The principal streets and places contained in it are Great Tower-street, part of Little Tower-street and Tower-hill, part of Thames-street, Mark-lane, Mincing-lane, Seething-lane, St. Olave Hart-street, Idle-lane, St. Dunstan's-hill, Harp-lane, Water-lane, and Bear-lane, with the courts and alleys that fall into them.

Great Tower-hill lies on the outside of the Tower-ditch towards the north-west.

Upon this hill is a scaffold erected, at the charge of the city, for the execution of noble offenders imprisoned in the Tower, (after sentence passed upon them.)

The names of the keys or wharfs lying on the Thames side in this ward between the Tower and Billingsgate, are Brewer's-key, Chester-key, Galley-key, Wool-key, Porter's-key,

ter's-key, Custom-house-key, Great Bear-key, Little Bear-key, Wiggings-key, Ralph's-key, Little Dice-key, Great Dice-key, and Smart's-key, of which, next to the Custom-house-key, Bear-keys are the most considerable, there being one of the greatest markets in England for wheat and other kinds of grain, brought hither by coasting vessels.

The publick buildings in this ward (besides the western part of the Tower above-mentioned to be within the city) are the Custom-house, Clothworkers'-hall, Bakers'-hall, and the three parish churches of Alhallows Barking, St. Olave, Hart-street, and St. Dunstan's in the East.

The Custom-house is situated on the north side of the Thames between the Tower and Billingsgate; consisting of two floors, in the uppermost of which, in a wainscotted magnificent room, almost the whole length of the building, and fifteen feet in height, sit the commissioners of the customs, with their under officers and clerks. The length of this edifice is an hundred and eighty-nine feet, and the general breadth twenty-seven, but at the west end it is sixty feet broad. It is built of brick and stone, and covered with lead, being adorned with the upper and lower orders of architecture.

3. Aldgate, or Ealdgate ward. The principal streets and places in it are Aldgate-street, Berry-street, part of St. Mary Axe, part of Leadenhall-street, part of Lime-street, Billiter-lane and Square, part of Mark-lane, Fenchurch-street, and Crutched-friars.

The publick buildings in this ward are the African-house, the Navy-office, Bricklayer's-hall, the churches of St. Catharine Creechurch, St. James's, Duke's-place, St. Andrew Undershaft, St. Catharine Coleman, and the Jews' synagogues.

The Royal African-house is situated on the south side of Leadenhall-street, near the east end of it. Here the affairs of the company are transacted; but the house has nothing in it that merits a particular description.

The Navy-office is situated on the south side of Crutched-friars, near Tower-hill, being a large well-built pile of buildings, and the offices for every branch of business relating to the navy admirably well disposed.

The Jews' synagogues are in Duke's-place, where, and in that neighbourhood, many of that religion inhabit. The synagogue stands east and west, as Christian churches usually do: the great door is on the west, within which is a long desk upon an ascent, raised above the floor, from whence the law is read. The east part of the synagogue also is raised in, and the places where the women sit inclosed with lattices; the men sit on benches with backs to them, running east and west; and there are abundance of fine branches for candles, besides lamps, especially in that belonging to the Portuguese.

4. Lime-street ward. The principal streets and places in it are part of Leadenhall-street, and Leadenhall-market, part of Lime-street, and part of St. Mary Axe.

Leadenhall-market, the finest shambles in Europe, lies between Leadenhall-street and Fenchurch-street. Of the three courts or yards that it consists of, the first is that at the north-east corner of Gracechurch-street, and opens into Leadenhall-street. This court or yard contains in length from north to south 164 feet, and in breadth from east to west 80 feet: within this court or yard, round about the same, are about 100 standing stalls for butchers, for the selling of beef only, and therefore this court is called the beef market. These stalls are either under warehouses, or sheltered from the weather by roofs over them. This yard is on Tuesdays a market for leather, to which the tanners resort; on Thursdays the waggons from Colchester, and other parts, come with baize, &c. and the felmongers with their wool; and on Fridays it is a market for raw hides; on Saturdays, for beef and other provisions.

The second market-yard is called the Green-yard, as being once a green plot of ground; afterwards it was the city's store-yard for materials for building and the like;

but now a market only for veal, mutton, lamb, &c. This yard is 170 feet in length from east to west, and 90 feet broad from north to south: it hath in it 140 stalls for the butchers, all covered over. In the middle of this Green-yard market from north to south is a row of shops, with rooms over them, for fishmongers; and on the south side and west end are houses and shops also for fishmongers. Towards the east end of this yard is erected a fair market-house, standing upon columns, with vaults underneath, and rooms above, with a bell-tower, and a clock, and under it are butchers' stalls. The tenements round about this yard are for the most part inhabited by cooks and victuallers; and in the passages leading out of the streets into this market are fishmongers, poulterers, cheefemongers, and other traders in provision.

The third market belonging to Leadenhall is called the Herb-market, for that herbs, roots, fruit, &c. are only there sold. This market is about 140 feet square; the west, east, and north sides had walks round them, covered over for shelter, and standing upon columns; in which walks there were 28 stalls for gardeners, with cellars under them.

The publick buildings in this ward are Leadenhall, the East-India-house, Pewterers'-hall, and Fletchers'-hall.

Leadenhall is situated on the south side of Leadenhall-street. It is a large stone fabrick, consisting of three large courts or yards, as has been observed already; part of it is at present a warehouse, in the occupation of the East-India company, where the finest calicoes, and other curiosities of the eastern part of the world, are repositied; another part of it is a warehouse for Colchester baize, and is open every Thursday and Friday. Here was also anciently a chapel, and a fraternity of 60 priests constituted to celebrate divine service every day to the market-people; but was dissolved with other religious societies at the reformation.

On the south side of Leadenhall-street also, and a little to the eastward of Leadenhall, stands the East-India House, lately magnificently rebuilt, with a stone front to the street; but the front being very narrow, does not make an appearance answerable to the grandeur of the house within, which stands upon a great deal of ground, the offices and storehouses admirably well contrived, and the publick hall and the committee room scarce inferior to any thing of the like nature in the city.

There is not one church in this ward at present. The officers of the ward are, an alderman, his deputy, four common-council men, four constables, two scavengers, sixteen for the wardmote inquest, and a beadle.

5. Bishopsgate ward is divided into two parts, one within Bishopsgate, and the other without.

The streets and places in this ward, within the gate, are, all Bishopsgate-street, part of Gracechurch-street, all Great and Little St. Helen's, all Crosby-square, all Camomile-street, and a small part of Wormwood-street, with several courts and alleys that fall into them.

That part of this ward that lies without Bishopsgate extends northwards as far as the bars, being the bounds of the city freedom on this side.

The principal streets and places in this ward, without the gate, are, Bishopsgate-street, Petty-france, Bethlem Court and Lane, and Devonshire-square; besides which, there are little courts and alleys without number between Bishopsgate-street and Moorfields.

The publick buildings in this ward are Leatherfellers'-hall, Gresham-college, the churches of St. Botolph Bishopsgate, St. Ethelburga, and St. Helen.

London workhouse, for the poor of the city of London, also stands in this ward, just without Bishopsgate, being a long brick edifice four hundred feet in length, con-

sisting of several work-rooms and lodging-rooms for the vagrants and parish children brought thither, who are employed in spinning wool and flax, in sewing, knitting, or winding silk, or making their cloaths or shoes, and are taught to write, read, and cast accompts. The grown vagrants brought here for a time only, are employed in washing, beating hemp, and picking oakum, and have no more to keep them than they earn, unless they are sick; and the boys are put out apprentices to seafaring men or artificers, at a certain age, and in the mean time have their diet, cloaths, physick, and other necessaries, provided for them by the house, which is supported by private charities, by sums raised annually by the city, or by the labour of the children, which last article produces seven or eight hundred pounds *per annum*.

6. Broad-street ward contains part of Threadneedle-street, Bartholomew-lane, part of Prince's street, part of Lothbury, part of Throgmorton-street, great part of Broad-street, Winchester-street, Austin-friars, part of Wormwood-street, and part of London-wall-street, with the courts and lanes running into them.

The publick buildings in this ward are Carpenters'-hall, Drapers'-hall, Merchant-Taylors'-hall, the South-Sea-House, the Pay-office, Alhallows on the Wall, St. Peter's Poor, the Dutch church, St. Martin's, St. Bennet's, St. Bartholomew's, St. Christopher's, and the French church.

The most magnificent and beautiful edifice of the kind in this ward, and indeed in the city of London, is the South-Sea-House, lately erected at the north-east corner of Threadneedle-street, near Bishopsgate-street, and over against the church of St. Martin Outwich. It is built of stone and brick.

The several offices for transacting the business of this great company are admirably well disposed; and the great hall for sales is no where to be paralleled, either in its dimensions or ornaments, any more than the dining-room, galleries, and chambers above.

7. Cornhill ward comprehends little more than the street of the same name, and some little lanes and alleys that fall into it, as Castle-alley, Sweeting's or Swithin's-alley, Freeman's-yard, part of Finch-lane, Weigh-house-yard, Star-court, the north end of Birching-lane, St. Michael's-alley, Pope's-head-alley, and Exchange-alley.

Cornhill-street may, in many respects, be looked upon as the principal street of the city of London; for here almost all affairs relating to navigation and commerce are transacted; and here, all the business relating to the great companies and the Bank, are negotiated. This street also is situated near the centre of the city, and some say, upon the highest ground in it. It is spacious, and well built with lofty houses, four or five stories high, inhabited by linen-draper and other considerable tradesmen, who deal by wholesale as well as retail, and adorned with the principal gate and front of the Royal-Exchange. Here also it is said the metropolitan church was situated, when London was an archbishoprick.

Exchange-alley, so denominated from its being situated on the south-side of this street, over against the Royal Exchange, has long been famous for the great concourse of merchants and commanders of ships, and the bargains and contracts made there and in the two celebrated coffee-houses in it, which go under the respective names of Jonathan's and Garraway's, where land, stocks, debentures, and merchandize, and every thing that has an existence in nature, is bought, sold, and transferred from one to another; and many things contracted for, that subsist only in the imagination of the parties.

The publick buildings in this ward are, the Royal-Exchange, and the churches of St. Peter and St. Michael.

The Royal-Exchange is situated on the north side of Cornhill, about the middle of the street, forming an oblong open square, the inside whereof is an hundred and forty-four feet in length from east to west, and an hundred and seventeen in breadth from north to south; the area sixty-one square poles, on every side whereof is a noble piazza or cloister, consisting of twenty-eight columns and arches that support the galleries above.

The length of the building on the outside is two hundred and three feet, the breadth an hundred and seventy-one, and the height fifty-six. On the front towards Cornhill also is a noble piazza, consisting of ten pillars; and another on the opposite side next Threadneedle-street, of as many; and in the middle of each a magnificent gate: over the Cornhill gate is a beautiful tower, an hundred and seventy-eight feet high, furnished with twelve small bells for chimes; and underneath the piazzas are capacious cellars, which serve for warehouses.

The whole building is of Portland stone, rustick work; above the arches the inward piazza is an entablament, with fine enrichments; and on the cornice a range of pilasters, with entablature, and a spacious compass pediment in the middle of the corners of each of the four sides. Under the pediment on the north side, are the king's arms; on the south, those of the city; and on the east, the arms of Sir Thomas Gresham. And under the pediment on the west side, the arms of the company of mercers, with their respective enrichments. The intercolumns of the upper range are twenty-four niches, nineteen of which are filled with the statues of the kings and queens regent of England, standing erect with their robes and *regalia*, except that of King James II. and King George II. which are habited like the Cæsars.

On the south side are seven niches, of which four are filled, viz.

1. The most easterly figure, which has this inscription in gold letters, *Edvardus Primus Rex, Anno Dom. 1272.*
2. Westward, *Edvardus III. Rex, Anno Dom. 1329.*
3. *Henricus V. Rex, Anno Domini 1412.*
4. *Henricus VI. Rex, Anno Domini 1422.*

On the west side five niches, four of which are filled, viz.

1. Under the most southerly figures is subscribed in gold letters, *Edvardus IV. Rex, Anno Domini 1460.*
2. Northward (the crown pendant over his head) *Edvardus V. Rex, Anno Domini 1483.*
3. *Henricus VII. Rex, Anno Domini 1487.*
4. *Henricus VIII. Rex, Anno Domini 1508.*

On the north side seven niches are filled, viz.

1. The most westerly, subscribed in golden characters, *Edvardus VI. Rex, Anno Domini 1547.*
2. *Maria Regina, Anno Domini 1553.*
3. *Elizabetha Regina, Anno Domini 1558.*
4. Is subscribed, *Serenissim' & Potentissim' Princip' Jacobo Primo, Mag. Brit' Fran' & Hibern' Reg. Fid. Defensori, Societas Pannitonorum posuit, A. D. 1684.*
5. *ΕΙΚΩΝ ΒΑΣΙΛΙΚΗ Serenissimi & Religiosissimi Principis Caroli Primi, Angliæ, Scotiæ, Franciæ & Hiberniæ Regis, Fidei Defensoris; Bis Martyris (in Corpore & Effigie) Impiis Rebellionum Manibus, ex hoc loco deturbata & confracta, Anno Dom. 1647. Restituta & hic demum collocata, Anno Dom. 1683. Gloria Martyrii qui te fregere Rebelles non potuere ipsum quem voluere Deum.*
6. *Carolus Secundus, Rex, Anno Domini 1648.*
7. *Jacobus II. Rex, Anno Domini 1685.*

On the east side five niches, one of which is vacant, the other filled, viz.

1. The most northerly contains two statues, viz. of King William and Queen Mary, subscribed *Gulielmus III. Rex, & Maria II. Regina, A. D. 1688. S. P. Q. Londin' Optim' Principibus, P. C. 1695.*
2. *Anna Regina Dei Gratia Mag. Britan' Franciæ & Hiberniæ, 1701.*
3. George I. inscribed *Georgius D. G. Magnæ Britan' Franciæ & Hiberniæ Rex, Anno Dom. 1714. S. P. Q. L.*
4. Southerly, the statue of King George II.

in the habiliment of a Cæsar, wreathed on the head, and a battoon or truncheon in his hand, little differing from that of Charles II. in the center of the area, only in looking northward; inscribed *Georgius II. D. G. Mag. Brit. Fra. & Hib. Rex, Anno Dom. 1727. S. P. Q. L.*

On the four sides of the piazza within the Exchange, are twenty-eight niches, which are all vacant yet, except one near the north-west angle, where is the figure of Sir Thomas Gresham. The piazza itself is paved with black and white marble, and the court, or area, pitched with pebbles; in the middle whereof is the statue of King Charles II. in a Roman habit, with a battoon in his hand, erected on a marble pedestal about eight feet high, and looking southward; on which side of the pedestal, under an imperial crown, wings, trumpets of fame, scepter and sword, palm branches, &c. are these words inscribed, viz.

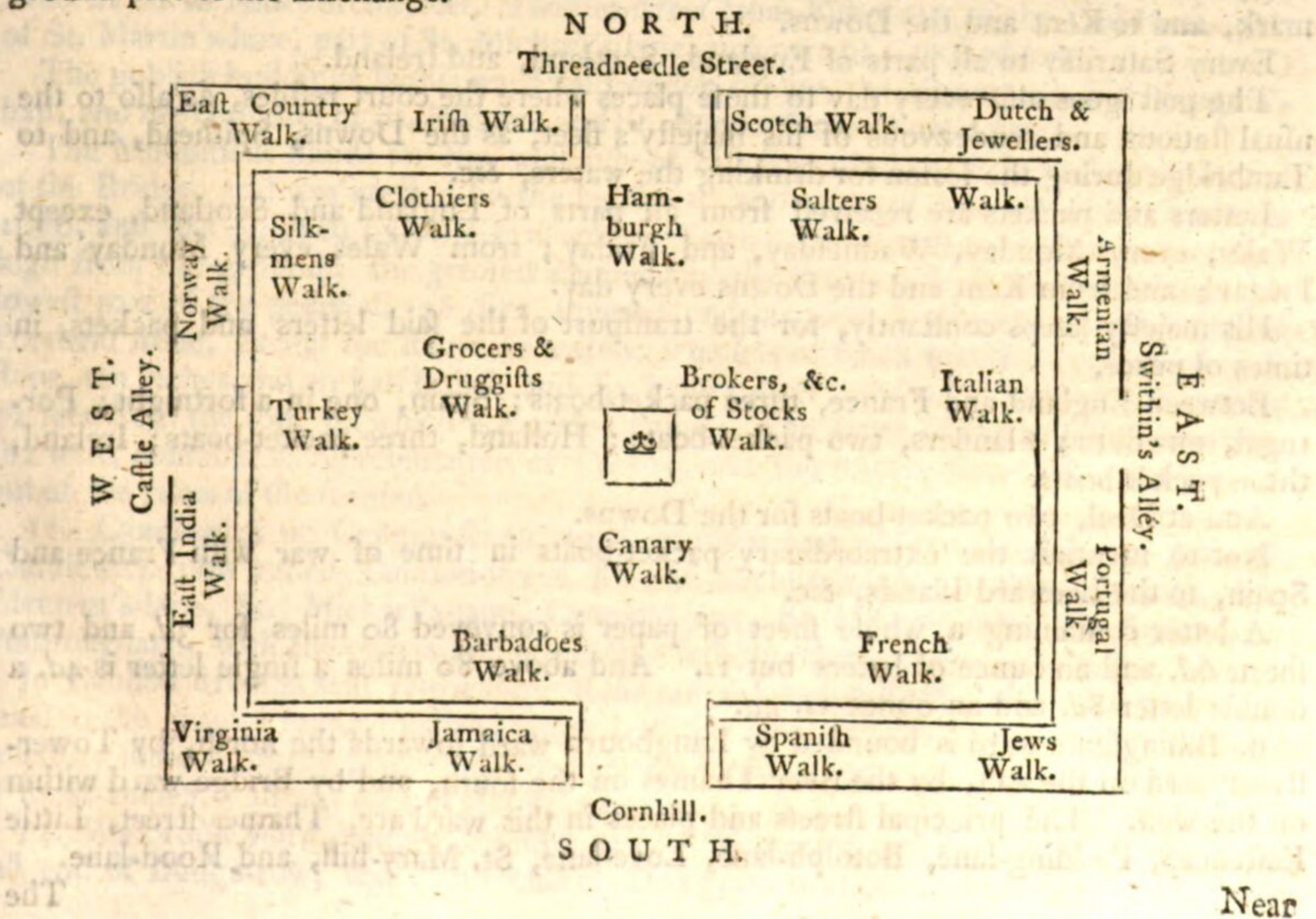
Carolo II. Cæsari Britannico, Patriæ Patri, Regum Optimo Clementissimo Augustissimo, Generis Humani Deliciis, Utriusq; Fortunæ Victori, Pacis Europæ Arbitro, Marium Domino, ac Vindici Societatis Mercatorum Adventur' Angliæ, quæ per CCCC jam prope Annos Regia benignitate floret, Fidei Intemeratæ & Gratitude æternæ hoc Testimonium venerabunda posuit, Anno Salutis Humanæ 1684.

On the west side of the pedestal is neatly cut in relievo, the figure of a cupid reposing his right hand on a shield containing the arms of England and France quartered, and in his left hand a rose.

On the north side are the arms of Ireland on a shield, supported by a cupid.

On the east side the arms of Scotland, with a cupid holding a thistle, all in relievo.

The inner piazza and court are divided into several stations, or walks, where the merchants of the respective nations, and those who have business with them, assemble distinctly; so that any merchant or commander of a vessel is readily found, if it be known to what country he trades. The several walks are described in the following ground-plot of the Exchange.



Near the south gate is a spacious staircase, and near the north gate another, that lead up to the galleries, on each side whereof are shops for milliners and other trades, to the number of near two hundred, which brought in a good revenue at first, nothing being thought fashionable that was not purchased there; but the milliners are now dispersed all over the town, and the shops in the Exchange almost deserted.

8. Langbourn ward, so called of a *burne*, or brook, that had its source in it, and run down Fenchurch-street, contains these principal streets; part of Lombard-street, part of Fenchurch-street, part of Lime-street, and part of Gracechurch-street; with part of the courts, lanes, and alleys in them, particularly White-hart-court, Exchange-alley, Sherbourn-lane, Abchurch-lane, St. Nicholas-lane, Mark-lane, Mincing-lane, Rood-lane, Cullum-court, Philpot-lane, and Braben-court.

The publick buildings in this ward are, the Post-office, Ironmongers'-hall, Pewterers'-hall; the churches of Allhallows Lombard-street, St. Edmund's Lombard-street, St. Mary Woolnoth, St. Dionis Backchurch, and St. Allhallows Staining.

The Post office is situated on the south side of Lombard street, near Stocks-market. It was the dwelling-house of Sir Robert Vyner, in the reign of King Charles II. The principal entrance is out of Lombard-street, through a great gate and passage that leads into a handsome paved court, about which are the several offices for receiving and distributing letters, extremely well contrived.

Letters and packets are dispatched from hence every Monday to France, Italy, Spain, Portugal, Flanders, Germany, Sweden, Denmark, Kent, and the Downs.

Every Tuesday to the United Netherlands, Germany, Swedeland, Denmark, and to all parts of England, Scotland, and Ireland.

Every Wednesday to Kent only, and the Downs.

Every Thursday to France, Spain, Portugal, Italy, and all parts of England and Scotland.

Every Friday to the Austrian and United Netherlands, Germany, Sweden, Denmark, and to Kent and the Downs.

Every Saturday to all parts of England, Scotland, and Ireland.

The post goes also every day to those places where the court resides, as also to the usual stations and rendezvous of his majesty's fleet, as the Downs, Spithead, and to Tunbridge during the season for drinking the waters, &c.

Letters and packets are received from all parts of England and Scotland, except Wales, every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday; from Wales every Monday and Friday; and from Kent and the Downs every day.

His majesty keeps constantly, for the transport of the said letters and packets, in times of peace,

Between England and France, three packet-boats; Spain, one in a fortnight; Portugal, one ditto; Flanders, two packet-boats; Holland, three packet-boats; Ireland, three packet-boats.

And at Deal, two packet-boats for the Downs.

Not to mention the extraordinary packet-boats in time of war with France and Spain, to the Leeward Islands, &c.

A letter containing a whole sheet of paper is conveyed 80 miles for 3*d.* and two sheets 6*d.* and an ounce of letters but 1*s.* And above 80 miles a single letter is 4*d.* a double letter 8*d.* and an ounce 1*s.* 4*d.*

9. Billingsgate ward is bounded by Langbourn ward towards the north, by Tower-street ward on the east, by the river Thames on the south, and by Bridge ward within on the west. The principal streets and places in this ward are, Thames-street, Little Eastcheap, Pudding-lane, Botolph-lane, Love-lane, St. Mary-hill, and Rood-lane.

The

The wharfs, or keys, as they lie on the Thames-side from east to west, are Smart's key, Billingsgate, Little Somer's key, Great Somer's key, Botolph wharf, Cox's key, and Fresh wharf, which last is the next key to the Bridge; of which Billingsgate is much the most resorted to. It is a kind of square dock, or inlet, having keys on three sides of it, to which the vessels lie close while they are unloading. By a statute of the 10th and 11th of William III. it was enacted, 'That Billingsgate should be a free market for fish every day in the week, except Sundays: That a fishing vessel should pay no other toll or duty than the act prescribes, viz. every salt-fish vessel, for groundage, 8*d.* *per diem*, and 2*d.* *per voyage*; a lobster boat 2*d.* a day groundage, and 13*d.* the voyage; every dogger boat, or smack with sea-fish, 2*d.* *per diem* groundage, and 13*d.* the voyage; every oyster vessel 2*d.* a-day groundage, and a halfpenny *per* bushel metage. And that it should be lawful for any person, who should buy fish in the said market, to sell the same in any other market or place in London, or elsewhere, by retail.' And because the fishmongers used to buy up great part of the fish at Billingsgate, and then divide the same among themselves, in order to set an extravagant price upon them, it was enacted, 'That no person should buy, or cause to be bought, in the said market of Billingsgate, any quantity of fish, to be divided by lot among the fishmongers, or other persons, with an intent to sell them afterwards by retail; and that no fishmonger should buy any more than for his own use, on pain of 2*0*l.' And by the 6th *Annæ* it was enacted, 'That no person should buy fish at Billingsgate to sell again in the same market; and that none but fishermen, their wives, or servants, should sell fish by retail at Billingsgate; and that none should buy or sell fish there before the ringing of the market-bell.'

The publick buildings in this ward are Butchers'-hall, and the churches of St. Mary Hill, St. Margaret Pattons, and St. George in Botolph-lane.

10. Bridge ward within contains London-bridge, New Fish-street, Gracechurch-street as far as Fenchurch-street, Thames-street from Fish-street to the Old-swan, part of St. Martin's-lane, part of St. Michael's-lane, and part of Crooked-lane.

The publick buildings in this ward are London-bridge, the Monument, Fishmongers'-hall, and the churches of St. Magnus and St. Bennet Gracechurch-street.

The Monument stands on the west side of Fish-street-hill, a little to the northward of the Bridge, and was erected by the legislative authority, in memory of the fire *anno* 1666, and was designed by Sir Christopher Wren. It has a fluted column, 202 feet high from the ground; the greatest diameter of the shaft 15 feet, and the plinth, or lowest part of the pedestal, 28 feet square, and 40 feet high; the whole being of Portland stone, except the stair-case within, which is of black marble, containing 345 steps, ten inches and an half broad, and six inches deep; and a balcony on the outside 32 feet from the top, on which is a gilded flame. The front of the pedestal, towards the west, contains a representation of the fire, and the resurrection of the present city out of the ruins of the former.

11. Candlewick or Cannon-street ward contains part of Great Eastcheap, part of Candlewick now called Cannon-street, part of Abchurch-lane, St. Nicholas-lane, St. Clement's-lane, St. Michael's-lane, Crooked-lane, St. Martin's-lane, St. Lawrence-Poultney-lane, with the courts and alleys that fall into them.

In Cannon-street is that remarkable stone called London-stone, which has remained fixed in the ground many hundred years, but for what end is uncertain; though supposed by some to be the place from whence the Romans began to compute the number of miles anciently to any part of the kingdom.

12. Walbrook ward contains the best part of Walbrook, part of Bucklersbury, the east end of Budge-row, the north end of Dowgate, part of Cannon-street, most of Swithin's.

Swithin's-lane, most of Bearbinder-lane, part of Bush-lane, part of Suffolk-lane, part of Green-lattice-lane, and part of Abchurch-lane, with several courts and lanes that fall into them.

Stocks-market consists of a pretty large square, having Cornhill and Lombard-street on the north-east, the Poultry on the north-west, and Walbrook on the south east. Before the fire it was a market chiefly for fish and flesh, and afterwards for fruit and garden-stuff.

In this market Sir Robert Vyner, bart. and alderman, erected a marble equestrian statue of King Charles II. standing on a pedestal eighteen feet high, and trampling on his enemies.*

The publick buildings in this ward are Salters'-hall, the churches of St. Swithin and St. Stephen Walbrook.

13. Dowgate or Downgate ward, so called from the principal-street, which has a steep descent or fall into the Thames, contains part of Thames-street, part of St. Lawrence-Poultney-hill, part of Duxford-lane, part of Suffolk lane, part of Bush-lane, part of Dowgate hill, Checquer-yard, Elbow lane, and Cloak-lane; and the southward of Thames-street, Old Swan-lane, Cole-harbour, Alhallows-lane, Campion-lane, Friars-lane, Cozens-lane, Dowgate dock, and the Steel-yard.

The publick buildings in this ward are Tallow-chandlers'-hall, Skinners'-Hall, Innholders'-hall, Plumbers'-hall, Joiners'-hall, Watermens'-hall, and the church of Alhallows the Great.

14. Vintry ward (which was so called from the wine-merchants who landed and sold their wines here) contains part of Thames-street, New Queen-street, Garlick hill, College-hill, and St. Thomas-Apostles.

The publick buildings in this ward are, Vintners'-hall, Cutlers'-hall, the churches of St. Michael Royal, and St. James Garlick-hill.

Vintners'-hall is situated on the south-side of Thames-street, between Queen-street and Garlick-hill, being built on three sides of a quadrangle fronting the street. The rooms are large, finely wainscoted and carved, particularly the magnificent skreen at the east-end of the great hall, which is adorned with two columns, their entablature and pediment; and on acroters are placed the figure of Bacchus between several Fames, with other embellishments; and they have a garden backwards towards the Thames.

15. Cordwainers'-street ward, so called from the cordwainers (shoemakers) curriers, and other dealers in leather that inhabited that part of the town anciently, includes Bow-lane, New Queen-street, Budge-row, Tower-royal-street, Little St. Thomas Apostles, Pancras-lane, a small part of Watling-street, a little part of Basing-lane, and St. Sythe's-lane.

The publick buildings in this ward are the church of St. Anthony, St. Mary Aldermary, and St. Mary-le-Bow.

16. Cheap ward. The principal streets and places in this ward are Cheapside, the Poultry, part of Honey-lane-market, part of the Old-Jewry, part of Bucklersbury, part of Pancras-lane, part of Queen-street, all Ironmonger-lane, King-street, and St. Lawrence lane, and part of Cateaton-street, part of Bow-lane, and all Guildhall.

The publick buildings in this ward are, Guildhall, Mercers'-chapel and hall, Grocers'-hall, the Poultry-compter, the churches of St. Mildred Poultry, and St. Lawrence Jewry.

* This market has since been removed to Fleet-ditch, and a grand mansion-house for the lord-mayor is now erecting on the ground where Stocks-market was then kept, at the expence of the city.

Guildhall, the town-house of this great city, stands at the north end of King street, and is a large handsome structure, built with stone, *anno* 666, the old hall having been destroyed by the fire in 1666. By a large portico on the south side we enter the principal room, properly called the hall, being 153 feet in length, forty eight in breadth, and fifty five in height: on the right hand, at the upper end is the ancient court of the hustings, at the other end of the hall opposite to it are the sheriffs-courts. The roof of the inside is flat, divided into pannels; the walls on the north and south sides adorned with four demy pillars of the Gothic order, painted white, and veined with blue, the capitals gilt with gold, and the arms finely depicted in their proper colour, viz. at the east the arms of St. Edward the confessor, and of the Kings of England the shield and cross of St. George. At the west end the arms of the Confessor, those of England and France quarterly, and the arms of England. On the fourteen demy pillars (above the capital) are the king's arms, the arms of London, and the arms of the twelve companies. At the east end are the King's arms carved between the portraits of the late Queen, at the foot of an arabathram, under a rich canopy northward, and those of King William and Queen Mary southward, painted at full length. The inter-columns are painted in imitation of porphyry, and embellished with the portraitures, painted in full proportion, of eighteen judges, which were there put up by the city, in gratitude for their signal service done in determining differences between landlord and tenant (without the expence of law-suits) in rebuilding this city, pursuant to an act of parliament, after the fire, in 1666.

Those on the south side are, Sir Heneage Finch, Sir Orlando Bridgeman, Sir Matthew Hale, Sir Richard Rainsford, Sir Edward Turner, Sir Thomas Tyrrel, Sir John Archer, Sir William Morton.

On the north side are, Sir Robert Atkins, Sir John Vaughan, Sir Francis North, Sir Thomas Twifden, Sir Christopher Turner, Sir William Wild, Sir Hugh Windham.

At the west end, Sir William Ellis, Sir Edward Thurland, Sir Timothy Littleton.

And in the lord mayor's court (which is adorned with fleak stone and other painting and gilding, and also the figures of the four cardinal virtues) are the portraits of Sir Samuel Brown, Sir John Kelynge, Sir Edward Atkins, and Sir William Windham, all (as those above) painted in full proportion in their scarlet robes as judges.

The late Queen Anne, in December 1706, gave the city 26 standards, and 63 colours, to be put up in this hall, that were taken from the French and Bavarians at the battle of Ramillies the preceding summer; but there was found room only for 46 colours, 19 standards, and the trophy of a kettle drum of the elector of Bavaria's. The colours over the Queen's picture are most esteemed, on account of their being taken from the first battalion of French guards.

From the hall we ascend by nine stone steps to the mayor's court, council chamber, and the rest of the apartments of the house, which, notwithstanding it may not be equal to the grandeur of the city, is very well adapted to the ends it was designed for, namely, for holding the city courts, for the election of sheriffs and other officers, and for the entertainment of princes, ministers of state, and foreign ambassadors, on their grand festivals.

17. Coleman-street ward. The principal streets in this ward are the Old Jewry, part of Lothbury, Coleman-street, part of London wall, and all the lower part of Moorfields without the walls.

The publick buildings are Bethlem or Bedlam hospital, Founders-hall, Armourers-hall, the churches of St. Olave Jewry, St. Margaret Lothbury, and St. Stephen Coleman-street.

New Bethlem, or Bedlam, is situated at the south end of Moorfields, just without the wall the ground being formerly part of the town ditch, and granted by the city to the governors of the hospital of Old Bethlem, which had been appropriated for the reception of lunatics, but was found too strait to contain the people brought thither, and the building in a decaying condition.

The present edifice called New Bedlam was begun to be erected *anno* 1675, and finished the following year. It is built of brick and stone; the wings at each end, and the portico, being each of them adorned with four pilasters, entablature and circular pediment of the Corinthian order: Under the pediment are the King's arms, enriched with festoons; and between the portico and each of the said wings is a triangular pediment, with the arms of the city; and on a pediment over the gate the figures of two lunatics, exquisitely carved. The front of this magnificent hospital is reported to represent the *Escorial* in Spain, and in some respects exceeds every palace in or about London, being 528 feet in length, and regularly built: The inside, it is true, is not answerable to the grand appearance it makes without, being but thirty feet broad, and consisting chiefly of a long gallery in each of the two stories that runs from one end of the house to the other; on the south side whereof are little cells, wherein the patients have their lodgings, and on the north the windows that give light to the galleries, which are divided in the middle by handsome iron gate, to keep the men and women asunder.

In order to procure a person to be admitted into the hospital, a petition must be preferred to a committee of the governors, who sit at Bedlam seven at a time weekly; which must be signed by the churchwardens, or other reputable persons of the parish the lunatick belongs to, and also recommended to the said committee by one of the governors; and this being approved by the president and governors, and entered in a book upou a vacancy (in their turn) an order is granted for their being received into the house, where the said lunatick is accommodated with a room, proper physick and diet, gratis. The diet is very good and wholesome, being commonly boiled beef, mutton, or veal, and broth, with bread, for dinners on Sundays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays; the other days bread, cheese, and butter, or on Saturdays pease-pottage, rice milk, furmity, or other pottage, and for supper they have usually broth or milk pottage, always with bread: and there is farther care taken, that some of the committee go on a Saturday weekly to the said hospital to see the provisions weighed, and that the same be good and rightly expended.

18. Basinghall, or Bassishaw ward, consisteth only of Basinghall-street, and a small part of the street along London wall.

The public buildings of this ward are Blackwell-hall, Mafons-hall, Weavers-hall, Coopers-hall, Girdlers-hall, and St. Michael Bassishaw church.

Blackwell-hall it situated between Basinghall-street on the east, and Guildhall-yard on the west, being formerly called Bakewell-hall, from the family of the Bakewells, whose mansion-house stood here *anno* 1315, which falling to the crown, was purchased by the city of King Richard II. and converted into a warehouse and market for woollen manufactures; and by an act of common council *anno* 1516, it was appointed to be the only market for woollen manufactures sold in the city, except baize, the profits being settled on Christ's-hospital, which arise from the lodging and pitching of the cloth in the respective warehouses, there being one assigned for the Devonshire cloths, and others for the Gloucester, Worcester, Kentish, Medley, Spanish cloths, and blankets. The profits also of the baize brought to Leadenhall are settled on the same hospital. These cloths pay a penny a week each for pitching, and a halfpenny a week resting; stockings and blankets pay by the pack; all which bring in a considerable revenue, being under the direction

of

of the governors of Christ's-hospital. This hall was destroyed by the fire, and rebuilt by Christ's-hospital, *anno* 1672. The door-case on the front towards Guildhall is of stone, adorned with two columns, entablature and pediment of the Dorick order. In the pediment are the King's arms, and the arms of London under them, enriched with cupids, &c.

19. Cripplegate ward is usually divided into two parts, viz. Cripplegate within the walls and Cripplegate without.

The principal streets and places in Cripplegate ward within the walls, are Milk-street, great part of Honey lane market, part of Cateaton-street, Lad-lane, Aldermanbury, Love-lane, Addle-street, London-wall street, from Little Wood-street to the postern, Philip-lane, most of Great Wood-street, Little Wood-street, part of Hart-street, Mugwell street, part of Fell-street, part of Silver-street, the east part of Maiden-lane, and some few houses in Cheapside to the eastward of Wood-street.

The principal streets and places in Cripplegate-ward without, are Fore street, and the Postern-street leading to Moorfields, Back-street in Little Moorfields, Moor-lane, Grub-street, the south part to the posts and chain, the south part of Whitecross-street as far as the posts and chain, part of Redcross-street, Beach-lane, the south part of Golden-lane as far as the posts and chain, the east part of Golden-lane, the east part of Jewen-street, Bridgewater-square, Brackley-street, Bridgewater-street, Silver-street, and Litton-street.

The publick buildings in this ward are Sion-College, Barber-Surgeons-hall, Plaisterers-hall, Brewers-hall, Curriers-hall, the churches of St. Mary Aldermanbury, St. Alphage, St. Alban Wood-street, and St. Giles Cripplegate.*

Sion-College is situated against London wall, a little to the eastward of Cripplegate, where anciently stood a nunnery, and afterwards an hospital founded for a hundred blind men, *anno* 1320, by W. Elsing, mercer, and called Elsing's Spittal: he afterwards founded here a priory for canons regular, which being surrendered to King Henry VIII. *anno* 1530, it was purchased by Dr. Thomas White, residentiary of St. Paul's, and vicar of St. Dunstan's in the west, for the use of the London clergy, who were incorporated by King Charles I. *anno* 1631, by the name of the president and fellows of Sion College, for the glory of God, the good of his church, redress of inconveniences, and maintaining of truth in doctrine, and love in conversation with one another, pursuant to the donor's will: which college is governed by the president, two deans and four assistants, who are yearly elected out of the London clergy, on the third Tuesday after Easter; but none of them reside there, the whole being left to the care of the librarian. The great gate against London-wall is adorned with two columns, their entablature and pitched pediment of the Tuscan order, whereon is this inscription in gold letters.

Collegium Sionis a Thoma White, S. T. P. Fundatum Anno Christi 1631, in Usum Clerici Lond. Bibliotheca a Johanne Simpson, S. T. B. Extracta, a diversis Benefactor, Libris locupletata, & in posterum locupletanda. Vade & fac similiter.

The college consists of a handsome hall, the president's lodgings, chambers for students, and a well disposed library, one hundred and twenty feet in length, and thirty in breadth, which is at this day very well replenished with books, notwithstanding both library and college were burnt down, *anno* 1666: It was rebuilt and furnished by contributions from the London clergy and their friends. The library is kept in exact order,

* And since that time has been built the church of St. Luke in Old-street, one of the fifty new churches.

† All which chambers, &c. are now let out to private families, and there are no students.

and there are all imaginable conveniences for those who desire to consult their books.

20. Aldersgate ward. The principal streets and places in this ward are, Foster-lane, Maiden-lane, Noble-street, St. Martin's le-Grand, Dean's court, Round-court, Angel-street, Bull-and-mouth-street, St. Anne's lane, Aldersgate street, Goswell-street, Barbican, Long lane and Little-Britain,

St. Martin's le grand was anciently a magnificent college, founded by Jugelricus and Edwardus his brother, *anno* 1056, and confirmed by William the Conqueror, by his charter dated *anno* 1068, in the second year of his reign; who also gave all the moorlands without Cripplegate to this college, exempting the dean and canons from the jurisdiction of the bishop, and from all legal services, granting them soc and sac, toll and theam, with all liberties and franchises that any church in the kingdom enjoyed.

This college was surrendered to King Edward VI, in the second year of his reign, *anno* 1548, and the same year the church pulled down, and the ground leased out to persons to build upon, being highly valued on account of the privileges annexed to it; for it still remains a separate jurisdiction. The sheriffs and magistrates of London have no authority in this liberty, but it is esteemed part of Westminster, and subject only to the dean and chapter of that abbey.

The publick buildings in this ward are, Goldsmiths'-hall, Coachmakers'-hall, London-house, Thanet house, Cook's-hall, the church of St. Anne within Aldersgate, St. Leonard, Foster-lane, and St. Botolph Aldersgate.

21. Farringdon ward within the walls, so called to distinguish it from Farringdon ward without, was anciently but one ward, and governed by one alderman; receiving its name of William Farendon, goldsmith, alderman thereof, and one of the sheriffs of London, who purchased the aldermanry of John le Feure, 7 Edward I. *anno* 1279. It afterwards descended to Nicholas Farendon, son of the said William, who was four times mayor (and his heirs) from whence some infer that the aldermanries of London were formerly hereditary.

Farringdon ward within contains St. Paul's-church-yard, Ludgate-street, Blackfriars, the east side of Fleet-ditch from Ludgate-street to the Thames, Creed-lane, Ave-Mary-lane, Amen corner, Paternoster-row, Newgate street and market, Grey friars, part of Warwick-lane, Ivy lane, part of Cheapside, part of Foster-lane, part of Wood-street, part of Friday-street, and part of the Old Change. with several courts and alleys falling into them.

The publick buildings in this ward are, the cathedral of St. Paul, St. Paul's school, the king's printing-house, the Scotch-hall, Apothecaries' hall, Stationers'-hall, the College of Physicians, Butchers'-hall, Sadlers' hall, Embroiderers' hall, the church of St. Martin Ludgate, Christ's church and hospital, the church of St. Matthew, Friday-street, St. Austin's church, the church of St. Vedast, and the Chapter-house.

Austin the monk was sent to England by Pope Gregory the Great, to endeavour the conversion of the Saxons, about the year 596, and being favourably received by Ethelbert, then King of Kent, who soon after became his profelyte, was by the authority of the Roman see constituted archbishop of Canterbury, the capital of King Ethelbert's dominions. The archbishop being thus established in Kent, sent his missionaries into other parts of England, making Melitus, one of his assistants, bishop of London: and King Ethelbert, to encourage that city to embrace Christianity, it is said, founded the cathedral of St. Paul, about the year 604.

This cathedral stands upon an eminence in the middle of the town, disengaged from all other buildings, so that its beauties may be viewed on every side; whereas we see

only one front of St. Peter's at Rome, the palace of the Vatican, and other buildings contiguous to it, rendering the rest invisible; and though the riches and furniture of the several chapels in St. Peter's are the admiration of all that view them, yet they spoil the prospect of the fabrick. If we regard only the building, divested of the rich materials and furniture which hide the beauties of the structure, St. Paul's, in the opinion of many travellers, makes a better appearance than St. Peter's: nor does the white Portland stone, of which St. Paul's is built, at all give place to the marble St. Peter's is lined or incrustated with; for the numerous lamps and candles that are burnt before the altars at St. Peter's, so blacken and tarnish the marble, that it is not easy to distinguish it from common stone.

As to the outside of St. Paul's, it is adorned by two ranges of pilasters, one above the other; the lower consists of 120 pilasters at least, with their entablature of the Corinthian order; and the upper of as many, with entablament of the Composite order, besides 20 columns at the west, and four at the east end, and those of the porticoes, and spaces between the arches of the windows; and the architrave of the lower order, &c. are filled with great variety of curious enrichments, consisting of cherubims, festoons, voluta's, fruit, leaves, cartouches, ensigns of fame, as swords and trumpets in saltier crosses, with chaplets of laurel, also books displayed, bishops caps, the dean's arms, and (at the east end) the cypher of W. R. within a garter, on which are the words *Honi soit qui mal y pense*; and this within a fine compartment of palm-branches, and placed under an imperial crown, &c. all finely carved in stone.

The intercolumns of the lower range of pilasters are 33 ornamental windows and 6 niches, and of the upper range 37 windows and about 30 niches many whereof are adorned with columns, entablature and pediments; and at the east end is a sweep, or circular space, adorned with columns and pilasters, and enriched with festoons, fruit, incense-pots, &c. and at the upper part is a window between four pieddroits and a single cornish, and those between two large cartouches.

The ascent to the north portico is by 12 steps of black marble; the dome of the portico is supported and adorned with six very spacious columns (48 inches diameter) of the Corinthian order. Above the door-case is a large urn, with festoons, &c. Over this (belonging to the upper range of pilasters) is a spacious pediment, where are the King's arms with the *regalia*, supported by two angels, with each a palm-branch in their hands, under whose feet appear the figures of the lion and unicorn.

You ascend to the south portico (the ground here being low) by 25 steps: It is in all other respects like the north, and above this a pediment (as the other) belonging to the upper order, where is a proper emblem of this incomparable structure, raised (as it were) out of the ruins of the old church, viz. a phoenix, with her wings expanded, in flames; under which is the word RESURGAM insculped in capital characters.

The west portico is adorned and supported with 12 columns below, and eight above, fluted, of the respective orders as the two ranges; the twelve lower adorned with architrave, marble frieze and a cornish; and the eight upper with an entablature and a spacious triangular pediment, where the history of St. Paul's conversion is represented, with the rays of a glory, and the figures of several men and horses, boldly carved in relievo by Mr. Bird. The door-case is white marble, and over the entrance is cut in relievo the history of St. Paul's preaching to the Bereans (as in Acts xvii. 2.) It consists of a gruppia of nine figures (besides that of St. Paul) with books, &c. lively represented by the same hand as the conversion.

On the south side of the church, near the west end, is a forum or portal, the door-case being enriched with cartouches, voluta's and fruit, very excellently carved under a pediment

pediment; and opposite to this on the north side, is the like door-case. And in brief, all the apertures are not only judiciously disposed for commodiousness, illumination of the fabrick, &c. but are very ornamental.

At the west end is an acroteria of the figures of the twelve apostles, each about eleven feet high, with that of St. Paul on the angle of the pediment, and those of the four evangelists, two of each cumbent between as many angles on a circular pediment; over the dials of the clock on the fronts of the two towers also an entablature, and circles of enrichment, where twelve stones compose the aperture, answering to the twelve hours.

The said towers are adorned with circular ranges of columns of the Corinthian order, with domes upon the upper part, and at the vertex of each a curious pine-apple.

The choir has its roof supported with six spacious pillars, and the church with six more; besides which there are eight that support the cupola, and two very spacious ones at the west end. All which pillars are adorned with pilasters of the Corinthian and Composite orders, and also with columns fronting the cross-isle or ambulatory between the confistory and morning-prayer-chapel, which have each a very beautiful screen of curious wainscot, and adorned each with twelve columns, their entablatures arched pediments, and the king's arms, enriched with cherubims, and each pediment between four vases, all curiously carved; and these screens are fenced with iron-work, as is also the cornish at the west end of the church, and so eastward beyond the first arch.

The pillars of the church that support the roof, are two ranges, with their entablature and beautiful arches, whereby the body of the church and choir are divided into three parts or isles; the roof of each is adorned with arches, and spacious peripheries of enrichments, as shields, leaves, chaplets, &c. (the spaces included being somewhat concave) admirably carved in stone; and there is a large cross-isle between the north and south porticos, and two ambulatories, the one a little eastward, the other westward from the said cross-isle, and running parallel therewith. The floor of the whole is paved with marble, but under the cupola and within the rail of the altar, with fine porphyry, polished and laid in several geometrical figures.

The altar-piece is adorned with four noble fluted pilasters, finely painted and veined with gold, in imitation of *lapis lazuli*, with their entablature, where the enrichments, and also the capitals of the pilasters, are double gilt with gold. These intercolumns are twenty-one pannels of figured crimson velvet, and above them six windows, viz. in each intercolumniation, seven pannels and two windows one above the other; at the greatest altitude above all which, is a glory finely done. The aperture north and south into the choir, are (ascending up three steps of black marble) by two iron folding-doors, being (as that under the organ-gallery, &c.) exquisitely wrought into divers figures, spiral branches, and other flourishes; and there are two others at the west end of the choir, the one opening into the south isle, the other in the north, done by the celebrated artist in this way, monsieur Tijan.

And what contributes to the beauty of this choir, are the galleries, the bishop's throne, lord mayor's seat, with the stalls; all which being contiguous, compose one vast body of carved work of the finest wainscot, constituting three sides of a quadrangle.

The cupola (within the church) appears erected and elevated on eight pillars of a large magnitude, adorned with pilasters, entablature, circular pediments, and arches of the Corinthian order, and each pillar enriched with a spacious festoon; here are also as many alcoves fronted with curious iron-work, and over the arches, at a great height

height from the ground, is on entablature, and on the cornice an ambulatory, fronted or fenced in with handsome iron-work, extending round the inside of the cupola, above which is a range of thirty-two pilasters of the Corinthian order, where every fourth intercolumn is adorned with a nich and some enrichments; and, it is said, that in every foot of altitude the diameter of this decreaseth one inch.

On the outside of the dome, about twenty feet above the outer roof of the church, is a range of thirty-two columns, with niches of the same altitude, and directly counter to those afore said within the cupola: to these columns there is entablament, and above that a gallery with acroteria, where are placed very spacious and ornamental vases all round the cupola: at twelve feet above the tops of these vases (which space is adorned with pilasters and entablament, and the intercolumns are windows) the diameter is taken in (as appears outwardly) five feet, and two feet higher it decreases five feet, and a foot above that, it is still five feet less, where the dome outwardly begins to arch, which arches meet about fifty-two feet higher in perpendicular altitude, on the vertex of which dome is a neat balcony, and above this a large and beautiful lantern, adorned with columns of the Corinthian order, with a ball and cross at the top.

Christ's hospital is situated between Newgate-street and St. Bartholomew's Hospital in Smithfield. Here, as has been observed already, was anciently a monastery of grey friars, founded about the year 1325, which, upon the dissolution of monasteries, was surrendered to King Henry VIII. anno 1538, who, in the last year of his reign, transferred it to the city of London for the use of the poor. King Edward VI. endowed this hospital (together with those of Bridewell and St. Thomas's Hospital in Southwark) with large revenues, of which the city were made trustees, and incorporated by the name of the mayor, commonalty, and citizens of the city of London, governors of the possessions, revenues, and goods of the hospitals of Christ, Bridewell, and St. Thomas the Apostle, to whom the king granted 3,266*l.* 13*s.* 4*d.* per annum.

It was opened in the year 1552, in the month of November; and a good writing-school was added to this foundation in the year 1694, by Sir John More, *knt.* and alderman.

The children admitted into this hospital are presented every year by the lord-mayor and aldermen, and the other governors in their turns, a list of whom is printed yearly, and set up at the compting-house, and a letter is sent to each of the said governors some days before the admission, reminding him of the day of chusing, and how those he presents should be qualified; wherein is inclosed a blank certificate from the minister and church-wardens, a blank petition to the president and governors, and a paper of the rules and qualifications of the child to be presented: Upon this, the governor having made choice of a child to present, the friends of the said child come to the compting-house on the admission-day, bringing the said petition and certificate, rules, and letter along with him, and on the back side of the said petition, the governor who presents endorseth words to this effect:

I present the child mentioned in the certificate on the other side, and believe the same to be a true certificate: Witness my hand the Day of 17

Which the said governor signeth, and the child is admitted. The said rules and qualifications are as follows:

1. That no child be taken in but such as are the children of freemen of London.
2. That none be taken in under seven years old.
3. That none be taken in but orphans, wanting either father or mother, or both.
4. That no foundlings, or that are maintained at the parish charge, be taken in.
5. That

‘ 5. That none who are lame, crooked, or deformed, or that have the evil, rupture, or any infectious disease, be taken in.

‘ 6. That none be admitted but such as are without any probable means of being provided for otherways; nor without a due certificate from the minister, church-wardens, and three or four of the principal inhabitants of the parish whence any children come, certifying the poverty and inability of the parent to maintain such children, and the true age of the said child, and engaging to discharge the hospital of them before or after the age of fifteen years if a boy, or fourteen years if a girl, which shall be left to the governor’s pleasure to do; so that it shall be wholly in the power of the hospital to dispose of such child, or return them to the parent or parish, as to the hospital shall seem good.

‘ 7. That no child be admitted that hath a brother or sister in the hospital already.

‘ 8. To the end that no children be admitted contrary to the rules abovesaid, when the general court shall direct the taking in of any children, they shall (before taken in) be presented to a committee, consisting of the president, treasurer, or the almoners, renters, scrutenors, and auditors, and all other governors to be summoned at the first time, and so to adjourn from time to time: and that they, or any thirteen or more of them, whereof the president or treasurer for the time being to be one, shall strictly examine touching the age, birth, and quality of such children, and of the truth of the said certificates; and when such committee shall find cause, they shall forbid or suspend the taking in of any child, until they receive full satisfaction that such child or children are duly qualified according to the rules abovesaid.

‘ And that such children as may be presented to be admitted in pursuance of the will of any benefactor, shall be examined by the said committee, who are to take care that such children be qualified according to the wills of the donors or benefactors (as near as may consist with such wills) agreeing to the qualifications above.’

The lord-mayor and court of aldermen present each their child yearly, but the rest of the governors only in their turns, which may happen once in three or four years.

No child is continued in after fifteen years of age, except the mathematical scholars, who are sometimes in till they are eighteen, and who, at the beginning of the seventh year of their service as mariners, are at his majesty’s disposal; and of these children there is an account printed yearly, and presented to the king the 1st of January; setting forth, 1. Each boy’s name; 2. The month and year when they were bound out; 3. Their age; 4. The names of their masters; 5. The names of the ships whereof they are commanders; 6. What country trade they are in; 7. The month and year when they will be at his majesty’s disposal: also an account of the forty children annually enjoying the benefit of this mathematical foundation, &c. setting forth their names and age.

The governors, besides the lord-mayor and aldermen, are many, and commonly persons that have been masters or wardens of their companies, or men of estates, from whom there is some expectation of additional charities. Out of these one is made president, who is usually some ancient alderman that hath passed the chair; another is appointed treasurer, to whom the care of the house and of the revenues are committed, who is therefore usually resident, and has a good house within the limits of the hospital. There are two governors also, who are called *almoners*, whose business it is to buy provisions for the house and send them in, who are attended by the steward.

The children are dieted in the following manner: They have every morning for their breakfast bread and beer, at half an hour past six in the morning in the summer-time, and at half an hour past seven in the winter. On Sundays they have boiled beef and
broth

broth for their dinners, and for their suppers legs and shoulders of mutton. On Tuesdays and Thursdays they have the same dinners as on Sundays, that is, boiled beef and broth; on the other days no flesh meat, but on Mondays milk-porridge, on Wednesdays furmity, on Fridays old pease and pottage, on Saturdays water-gruel. They have roast beef about twelve days in the year, by the kindness of several benefactors, who have left, some 3*l* some 5*os* *per annum*, for that end. Their supper is bread and cheese, or butter for those that cannot eat cheese; only Wednesdays and Fridays they have pudding-pies for supper.

The diet of these children seems to be exceeding mean and sparing; and I have heard some of their friends say, that it would not be easy for them to subsist upon it without their assistance. However, it is observed they are very healthful; that out of eleven or twelve hundred, there are scarce ever found twelve in the sick ward; and that in one year, when there were upwards of eleven hundred in this hospital, there were not more than fifteen of them died. Besides, their living in this thrifty parsimonious manner, makes them better capable of shifting for themselves when they come out into the world.

As to the education of these orphans, here is a grammar-school, a writing-school, a mathematical-school, and a drawing-school.

As to grammar and writing, they have all of them the benefit of these schools without distinction; but the others are for such lads as are intended for the sea-service.

The first mathematical school was founded by King Charles II. *anno domini* 1673. His majesty gave 700*ol*. towards building and furnishing this school, and settled a revenue of 37*ol*. *per annum* upon it for ever: and there has been since another mathematical school erected here, which is maintained out of the revenues of the hospital, as is likewise the drawing school.

This hospital is built about a large quadrangle, with a cloister or piazza on the inside of it, which is said to be part of the monastery of the Grey-Friars; but most part of the house has been rebuilt since the fire, and consists of a large hall, and the several schools and dormitories for the children; besides which there is a fine house at Hertford, and another at Ware, twenty miles from London, whither the youngest orphans are usually sent and taught to read, before they are fixed at London.

The College of Physicians is situated on the west side of Warwick-lane. It is a beautiful and magnificent edifice, built by the society *anno* 1682, their former college in Amen corner having been destroyed by the fire. It is built of brick and stone, having a fine frontispiece, with a handsome door-case, within which is a lofty cupola erected on strong pillars, on the top whereof is a large pyramid, and on its vertex a crown and gilded ball. Passing under the cupola we come into a quadrangular court, the opposite side whereof is adorned with eight pilasters below and eight above, with their entablature and a triangular pediment; over the door-case is the figure of King Charles II. placed in a nich, and between the door and the lower architrave, the following inscription, viz.

VTRIVSQVE FORTVNÆ EXEMPLAR INGENS ADVERGIS REBVS
DEVM PROBAVIT PROSPERIS SEIPSVM COLLEGIJ HVJUSCE 1682.

The apartments within consist of a hall, where advice is given to the poor *gratis*; a committee-room, a library, another great hall where the doctors meet once a quarter, which is beautifully wainscotted, carved, and adorned with fretwork: here are the pictures of Dr. Harvey, who first discovered the circulation of the blood, and other benefactors; and northward from this, over the library, is the censor's room.

The theatre under the cupola, at the entrance, is furnished with six degrees of circular wainscot seats one above the other, and in the pit is a table and three seats, one for the president, a second for the operator, and a third for the lecturer; and here the anatomy-lectures are performed. In the preparing-room are thirteen tables of the muscles in a human body, each muscle in its proper position.

This society is a body-corporate for the practice of physick within London, and several miles about it. The president and censors are chosen annually at Michaelmas. None can practise physick, though they have taken their degrees, without their licence, within the limits aforesaid; and they have a power to search all apothecaries' shops, and to destroy unwholesome medicines.

By the charter of King Charles II. this college was to consist of a president, four censors, ten elects, and twenty-six fellows; the censors to be chosen out of the fellows, and the president out of the elects.

By the charter granted by King James II. the number of fellows was enlarged, but not to exceed eighty; and none but those who had taken the degree of doctors in the British or foreign universities were qualified to be admitted members of this college.

The fellows meet four times every year, viz. on the Monday after every quarter-day; and two of them meet twice a week, to give advice to the poor *gratis*. Here are also prepared medicines for the poor at moderate rates.

The president and four censors meet the first Friday in every month. The lord chancellor, chief justices, and chief baron, are constituted visitors of this corporation, whose privileges are established by several acts of parliament.

22. Bread-street ward contains Bread-street, Friday-street, Distaff-lane, Basing-lane, part of the Old-change, part of Watling-street, part of Old Fish-street, and Trinity-lane, and part of Cheap-side.

The only publick buildings in this ward are the churches of Alhallows, Bread-street, and St. Mildred, Bread-street.

23. Queenhithe ward includes part of Thames-street, Queenhithe, with the several lanes running southward to the Thames, Lambeth-hill, Fish-street-hill, Five-foot-lane, Little Trinity-lane, Bread-street-hill, Huggin-lane, with the south side of Great Trinity-lane, and part of Old Fish-street.

Queenhithe lies to the westward of the Three-cranes, and is an harbour for barges, lighters, and other vessels, that bring meal, malt, and other provisions down the Thames; being a square inlet, with wharfs on three sides of it, where the greatest market in England for meal, malt, &c. is held every day in the week, but chiefly on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays. It received the name of Queenhithe, or Harbour, from the duties anciently paid here to the queens of England.

24. Baynard's-castle ward contains Peter's-hill, Bennet's-hill, part of Thames-street, Paul's-wharf, Puddle-dock, Addle-hill, Knight-riding-street, Carter-lane, Wardrobe-court, Paul's-chain, part of St. Paul's Church-yard, Dean's-court, part of Creed-lane, and part of Warwick-lane.

The publick buildings in this ward are Doctors-Commons, the Herald's-office, the churches of St. Bennet Paul's-wharf, St. Andrew Wardrobe, and St. Mary Magdalen, Old Fish-street.

Doctors-Commons, so called from the doctors of the civil-law commoning together here as in a college, is situated on the west side of Bennet's-hill, and consists chiefly of one handsome square court. And here are held the court of admiralty, court of arches, and the prerogative-court of the archbishop of Canterbury. Near the commons are the prerogative-office and faculty-office.

The

The Herald's-college or office is situated on the east side of Bennet's-hill, almost against Doctors-Commons: it is a spacious building, with a square court in the middle of it, on the north side whereof is the court-room, where the earl-marshal sits to hear causes lying in the court of honour concerning arms, achievements, titles of honours, &c.

25. The ward of Faringdon without includes Ludgate-hill, Fleet-street and Fleet-ditch, Sheer-lane, Bell-yard, Chancery-lane, Fetter-lane, Dean-street, New-street, Plow-yard, East and West Harding-street, Flower-de-lis-court, Crane-court, Red-lion-court, Johnston's-court, Dunstan's-court, Bolt-court, Hind-court, Wine-office-court, Shoe-lane, Racket-court, White-friars, the Temples, Dorset or Salisbury-court, Dorset-street, Bridewell, the Old Baily, Harp-alley, Holborn-hill, Castle-street or Yard, Curfitor's-alley, Bartlet's-buildings, Holborn-bridge, Snow-hill, Pye-corner, Gilt-spur-street, Cow-lane, Cock-lane, Hosier-lane, Chick-lane, Smithfield, Long-lane, Bartholomew-close, Cloth-fair, and Duck-lane.

West-Smithfield, or rather Smoothfield, according to Stow, is an open place, containing little more than three acres of ground at present, of an irregular figure, surrounded with buildings of various kinds. Here is held one of the greatest markets of oxen and sheep in Europe, as may easily be imagined when it appears to be the only market for live cattle in this great city, which is held on Mondays and Fridays. There is also a market for horses on Fridays; nor is there any where better riding horses to be purchased, if the buyer has skill, though it must be confessed there is a great deal of jockeying and sharpening used by the dealers in horse-flesh. As for coach-horses, and those fit for troopers, they are usually purchased in the counties to the northward of the town. The famous fair on the feast of St. Bartholomew also is held in this place, which lasts three days, and by the indulgence of the city magistrates sometimes a fortnight; the first three days were heretofore assigned for business, as the sale of cattle, leather, &c. but now only for diversion, the players filling the area of the field with their booths, whither the young citizens resort in crowds.

The publick buildings in this ward are Bridewell, Serjeant's-inn in Fleet-street, the Temple, the Six-clerks-office, the Rolls, Serjeant's-inn in Chancery-lane, Clifford's-inn, the house of the Royal Society, Staple's-inn, Bernard's-inn, and Thavie's-inn, Justice-hall in the Old Baily, and the Fleet-prison, with the churches of St. Bartholomew, and the hospital adjoining, the churches of St. Sepulchre, St. Andrew Holborn, St. Bride's, and St. Dunstan's in the west.

Bridewell is situated on the west side of Fleet-ditch, a little to the southward of Fleet-street, having two fronts, one to the east, and the other to the north, with a handsome great gate in each of them. It consists chiefly of two courts, the innermost being the largest and best built, four or five stories high, on the south side whereof is a noble hall, adorned with the pictures of King Edward VI. and his privy-council, King Charles, and King James II. Sir William Turner, Sir William Jeffreys, and other benefactors.

It was one of the palaces of the kings of England till the reign of King Edward VI. who gave it to the city of London for the use of their poor, with lands of the value of 700 marks *per annum*, and bedding and furniture out of the hospital of the Savoy, then suppressed.

Here are lodgings and several privileges for certain tradesmen, such as flax-dressers, taylors, shoe-makers, &c. called arts-masters, who are allowed to take servants and apprentices to the number of about one hundred and forty, who are cloathed in blue vests at the charge of the house, their masters having the profit of their labour. These boys having served their times, have their freedom and ten pounds each given them

towards carrying on their trades; and some of them have arrived to the honour of being governors of the house where they served.

This hospital is at present under the direction of a president, and some hundreds of the most eminent and substantial citizens, with their inferior officers; and a court is held every Friday, where such vagrants and lewd people are ordered to receive correction in the sight of the court, as are adjudged to deserve it.

Among the publick buildings of this ward, that belonging to the Royal Society, situate at the north end of Two-crane-court, in Fleet-street, must not be omitted, though it be much more considerable on account of the learned members who assemble here, and the great advances that have been made by them of late years in natural philosophy, &c. than for the elegance of the building.

During the grand rebellion, when the estates of the prime nobility and gentry were sequestered, and there was no court for them to resort to, the then powers encouraging only the maddest enthusiasts, or the basest of the people, whom they looked upon as the fittest instruments to support their tyranny; some ingenious gentlemen, who had applied themselves chiefly to their studies, and abhorred the usurpation, proposed the erecting a society for the improvement of natural knowledge, which might be an innocent and inoffensive exercise to themselves in those troublesome times, and of lasting benefit to the nation. Their first meetings, it is said, were at the chambers of Mr. Wilkins (afterwards bishop of Chester) in Wadham-college, in Oxford, about the year 1650, and the members consisted of the honourable Robert Boyle, esq. Dr. Ward (afterwards bishop of Salisbury) Sir Christopher Wren, Sir William Petty, Dr. Wallis, Dr. Goddard, and Dr. Hook, late professor of geometry, the above-named bishop Wilkins, and others. In the year 1658 we find them assembling in Gresham-college, in London, when were added to their number the lord Brouncker, their first president, Sir Robert Murray, John Evelyn, esq. Sir George Ent, Dr. Croon, Henry Slingsby, esq. and many others. And after the restoration, his majesty King Charles II. appeared so well pleased with the design, that he granted them a charter of incorporation, bearing date the 22d of April, 15 *Car. II. anno* 1663, wherein he stiled himself their founder, patron, and companion; and the society was from thence forward to consist of a president, a council of twenty, and as many fellows as should be thought worthy of admission; with a treasurer, secretary, curators, and other officers.

When a gentleman desires to be admitted of the society, he procures one of the corporation to recommend him as a person duly qualified; whereupon his name is entered in a book, and proper inquiries made concerning his merit and abilities; and if the gentleman is approved of, he appears in some following assembly, and subscribes a paper, wherein he promises, that he will endeavour to promote the welfare of the society; and the president formally admits him by saying, "I do by the authority, and in the name of the Royal Society of London, for improving of natural knowledge, admit you a member thereof." Whereupon the new fellow pays forty shillings to the treasurer, and two and fifty shillings *per annum* afterwards by quarterly payments, towards the charges of the experiments, the salaries of the officers of the house, &c.

Behind the house they have a repository, containing a collection of the productions of nature and art. They have also a well-chosen library, consisting of many thousand volumes, most of them relating to natural philosophy; and they publish from time to time the experiments made by them, of which there are a great number of volumes, called Philosophical Transactions.

The hospital of St. Bartholomew, on the south side of Smithfield, is contiguous to the church of Little St. Bartholomew. It was at first governed by a master, eight brethren, and four sisters, who had the care of the sick and infirm that were brought thither. King Henry VIII. endowed it with a yearly revenue of five hundred marks, upon condition that the city should add five hundred more yearly for the relief of one hundred infirm people. And since that time the hospital is so increased and enlarged, by the benefactions given to it, that it receives infirm people at present from all parts of England. In the year 1702 a beautiful frontispiece was erected towards Smithfield, adorned with pilasters, entablature and pediment, of the Ionick order, with the figure of the founder, King Henry VIII. in a nich, standing in full proportion; and the figures of two cripples on the pediment: but the most considerable improvements to the building were made in the year 1731, part of the old buildings being pulled down, and a magnificent pile erected in the room of them about 150 feet in length, faced with a pure white stone; besides other additions now building.

There are two houses belonging to this hospital, the one in Kent-street, called the Lock, and the other at Kingsland, whither such unfortunate people as are afflicted with the French disease are sent and taken care of, that they may not prove offensive to the rest; for surely more miserable objects never were beheld, many of them having their noses and great part of their faces eaten off, and become so noisome frequently, that their stench cannot be borne, their very bones rotting while they remain alive.

This hospital is governed by the lord mayor and aldermen, with about three hundred other substantial citizens and gentlemen of quality, who generally become benefactors: and from these, and their friends, the hospital has been able to subsist such numbers of infirm people, and to perform the surprising cures they have done; for the patients are duly attended by the best physicians and surgeons in London, and so well supplied with lodging and diet proper to their respective cases, that much fewer miscarry here, in proportion, than in the great hospital of Invalids, and others the French so much boast of in Paris.

Those that have the immediate care of the hospital are, the president, the treasurer, the auditors of accounts, viewers of their revenues, overseers of the goods and utensils of the hospital, and the almoners, who buy in provisions and necessaries for the patients.

A committee, consisting of the treasurer, almoners, and some other of the governors, meet twice a week, to inspect the government of the house, to discharge such persons as are cured, and to admit others.

26. Bridge ward without contains in chief, the Borough, or Long Southwark, St. Margaret's Hill, Blackman-street, Stony-street, St. Thomas's-street, Counter-street, the Mint-street, Maiden-lane, the Bank-side, Bandy-leg-walk, Bennet's-rents, George-street, Suffolk-street, Redcross-street, Whitecross-street, Worcester-street, Castle-street, Clink-street, Deadman's-place, New-rents, Gravel-lane, Dirty-lane, St. Olave's-street, Horsley-down, Crucifix-lane, Five-foot-lane, Barnaby-street, Long-lane and street.

The Bank-side consists of certain houses so called, from their lying on the south bank of the Thames to the westward of the Bridge.

Here, I was informed, was anciently the *bordello*, or stews, for the whole town, which consisted of eighteen houses, known by their several signs, as the Gun, the Crane, the Cardinal's-hat, &c. privileged and confirmed by several royal patents. And in a parliament holden the 8th of Henry II. we find the following rules prescribed them.

1. That

1. That no steward or his wife should let or stay any single woman to go and come freely at all times when she listed. 2. No steward to keep any woman to board, but she to board abroad at her pleasure. 3. To take no more for the woman's chamber weekly than fourteen pence. 4. Not to keep open doors on holy-days. 5. Not to keep any single woman in the house on holy-days. 6. No single woman to be kept against her will who would leave her sin. 7. No steward to receive any woman of religion, or any man's wife. 8. No single woman to take money to lie with any man, unless she lie with him all night till the morrow. 9. No man to be drawn or enticed into a stew-house. 10. The constables and officers to search the stew-houses every week. 11. No steward to keep any woman that hath the perilous infirmity of burning*; nor to sell ale, bread, or other provisions.

But notwithstanding these houses were privileged and protected by authority, the English appear even then to have had such an aversion to the becoming bawds and panders to other people's lusts, that the mistresses of them were generally Dutch women, who rented these tenements of the lord-mayor. And in the 37th year of Henry VIII. they were entirely suppressed.

The publick buildings in this ward are, St. Thomas's church and hospital, Guy's hospital for incurables, the church of St. Saviour, the church of St. Olave, and that of St. George, the Bridge-house, the King's Bench prison, the Marshalsea, and the Clink prison, the Sessions-House, Compter, and New-Prison.

The hospital of St. Thomas consists of four spacious courts. In the first of which are six wards for women. In the second stands the church, and another chapel, for the use of the hospital: here also are the houses of the treasurer, hospitaller, steward, cook, and butler. In the third court are seven wards for men, with an apothecary's shop, store-rooms, and laboratory. In the fourth court are two wards for women, with a surgery, hot and cold baths, &c. And in the year 1718, another magnificent building was erected by the governors, containing lodgings and conveniencies for an hundred infirm persons. So that this hospital is capable of containing five hundred patients and upwards at one time; and there are between four and five thousand people annually cured and discharged out of it, many of them being allowed money to bear their charges to their respective dwellings.

But one of the greatest charities that ever was attempted, by a private citizen, was that of Thomas Guy, esq. originally a bookseller of London, and afterwards a member of parliament for Tamworth, who, having acquired an immense fortune, founded an hospital for incurables, on a spot of ground adjoining to St. Thomas's hospital, and saw the noble fabrick in a good forwardness in his life-time, assigning about two hundred thousand pounds towards the building and endowing it; inasmuch, that it is computed there may be an ample provision for four hundred unhappy people, who shall be given over by physicians and surgeons as incurable. This gentleman died in December 1724, having first made his will, and appointed trustees to see his pious design duly executed. He gave also several thousand pounds to Christ's-hospital, and a thousand pounds a-piece to fifty of his poor relations; but the will being in print, I refer the reader to it for a more particular account of this noble charity.

The first church and hospital, dedicated to St. Thomas à Becket, was erected by the prior of Bermondsey, so long since as the year 1013; but the hospital was refounded, and the revenues increased, *anno* 1215, by Peter de Rupibus, bishop of Winchester, in whose diocese it was situated, continuing, however, to be held of the priors of Ber-

* Certainly this was the pox; and if so, it appears to be a distemper known in England long before the discovery of America, from whence it is pretended to be brought first into Europe.

mondsey till the year 1428, when the abbot of Bermondsey relinquished his interest to the master of the hospital for a valuable consideration. In the year 1538, this hospital was surrendered to King Henry VIII. being then valued at 266*l.* 17*s.* 6*d.* per annum. And in the following reign, the city of London having purchased the buildings of the crown, continued them an hospital for sick and wounded people; and King Edward VI. granted them some of the revenues of the dissolved hospitals and monasteries towards maintaining it: but these were inconsiderable in comparison of the large and numerous benefactions that have since been bestowed upon it by the lord-mayor, aldermen, and other wealthy citizens and men of quality, governors of it, who are seldom fewer than two or three hundred, every one of them looking upon themselves to be under some obligation of making an addition to the revenues of the hospital they have the direction of. A committee of the governors sit every Thursday, to consider what patients are fit to be discharged, and to admit others.

The government of the city of London, it is observed, resembles that of the kingdom in general; the lord-mayor is compared to the king, the aldermen to the nobility or upper-house, and the common-council-men to the commons of England.

This assembly, consisting of the lord-mayor, aldermen and common-council-men, has obtained the name of THE COMMON-COUNCIL, and has a power, by their charters, of making such bye-laws and statutes as are obligatory to the citizens. It is called and adjourned by the lord-mayor at pleasure, and out of it are formed several committees, viz. 1. A committee of six aldermen and twelve commoners for letting the city lands, which usually meets every Wednesday at Guildhall for that end. 2. A committee of four aldermen and eight commoners for letting the lands and tenements given by Sir Thomas Gresham, who meets at Mercers'-hall on a summons from the lord-mayor. 3. Commissioners of sewers and pavements, elected annually. And, 4. A governor, deputy-governor and assistants, for the management of the city lands in the province of Ulster in Ireland.

The other principal courts in the city are, 1. The court of aldermen. 2. The court of hustings. 3. The lord-mayor's court. 4. The sheriff's court. 5. The chamberlain's-court. 6. The court of the city orphans. 7. The court of conscience. 8. The courts of wardmote. And 9. The courts of hallmote.

Besides which, there is a court of oyer and terminer and jail-delivery, held eight times a year at Justice-hall in the Old Bailey, for the trial of criminals.

1. In the lord-mayor and court of aldermen is lodged the executive power in a great measure, and by these most of the city officers are appointed, viz. the recorder, four common pleaders, the comptroller of the chamber, the two secondaries, the remembrancer, the city solicitor, the sword-bearer, the common hunt, the water-bailiff, four attorneys of the lord-mayor's court, the clerk of the chamber, three serjeant carvers, three serjeants of the chamber, the serjeant of the chanel, the two marshals, the hall-keeper, the yeomen of the chamber, four yeomen of the waterside, the yeoman of the chanel, the under water-bailiff, two meal weighers, two fruit-meters, the foreign taker, the clerk of the city-works, six young men, two clerks of the papers, eight attornies of the sheriff's-court, eight clerks sitters, two prothonotaries, the clerk of the Bridge-house, the clerk of the Court of Requests, the beadle of the Court of Requests, thirty six serjeants at mace, thirty-six yeomen, the gager, the sealers and searchers of leather, the keeper of the Green-yard, two keepers of the two Compters, the keeper of Newgate, the keeper of Ludgate, the measurer, the steward of Southwark, [but the bailiff of Southwark is appointed by the common-council,] the bailiff of the hundred of Ossulston, the city artificers, and rent-gatherer, who hath been put in by Mr. Chamberlain.

In

In this court all leases and instruments that pass under the city-seal are executed; the assize of bread is settled by them; all differences relating to water-courses, lights and party-walls are determined, and officers are suspended or punished; and the aldermen, or a majority of them, have a negative in whatever is propounded in the common-council.

2. The court of hustings is esteemed the most ancient tribunal in the city, and was established for the preservation of the laws, franchises and customs of it. It is held at Guildhall before the lord-mayor and sheriffs, and in civil causes the recorder sits as judge. Here deeds are enrolled, recoveries passed, writs of right, waste, partition, dower and replevins determined.

3. The lord-mayor's court, a court of record, held in the chamber of Guildhall every Tuesday, where the recorder also sits as judge, and the lord-mayor and aldermen may sit with him if they see fit. Actions of debt, trespass, arising within the city and liberties, of any value, may be tried in this court, and an action may be removed thither from the sheriff's court before the jury is sworn.

The juries for trying causes in this and the sheriffs' courts, are returned by the several wards at their wardmote-inquests at Christmas, when each ward appoints the persons to serve on juries for every month in the year ensuing.

This court is also a court of equity, and gives relief where judgment is obtained in the sheriff's court for more than the just debt.

4. The sheriff's courts are also courts of record, where may be tried actions of debt, trespass, covenant, &c. They are held on Wednesdays and Fridays for actions entered in Wood-street-compter, and every Thursday and Saturday for actions entered in the Poultry-compter. Here the testimony of an absent witness in writing is allowed to be good evidence.

5. The chamberlain's court or office is held at the chamber in Guildhall. He receives and pays the city-cash and orphans' money, and keeps the securities taken by the court of aldermen for the same, and annually accounts to the auditors appointed for that purpose. He attends every morning at Guildhall, to inroll or turn over apprentices, or to make them free; and hears and determines differences between masters and their apprentices.

9. The court of city-orphans is held by the lord-mayor and aldermen as often as occasion requires; the common-serjeant being entrusted by them to take all inventories and accounts of freemen's estates, and the youngest attorney in the mayor's court is clerk of the orphans, and appointed to take security for their portions; for when any freeman dies, leaving children under the age of 21 years, the clerks of the respective parishes give in their names to the common-cryer, who thereupon summons the widow or executor to appear before the court of aldermen, to bring in an inventory, and give security for the testator's estate, for which they commonly allow two months time, and in case of non-appearance, or refusal of security, the lord-mayor may commit the executor to Newgate*.

7. The court of conscience was established for recovering small debts under 40s. at an easy expence, the creditor's oath of the debt being sufficient without further testimony to ascertain the debt. This court sits at the Hustings in Guildhall every Wednesday and Saturday, where the common-council of each ward are judges in their turns. They proceed first by summons, which costs but six-pence, and if the defendant appears, there is no further charge; the debt is ordered to be paid at such times, and in such

* This has been altered by Act of Parliament.

proportion as the court in their consciences think the debtor able to discharge it; but if the defendant neglect to appear, or obey the order of the court, an attachment or execution follows with as much expedition, and as small an expence as can be supposed. All persons within the freedom of the city, whether freemen or not, may prosecute and be prosecuted in this court, and freemen may be summoned who live out of the liberty.

The courts of wardmote are held by the aldermen of each ward, for chusing ward-officers, and settling the affairs of the ward, the lord-mayor annually issuing his precept to the aldermen to hold his wardmote on St. Thomas's-day, for the election of common-council men and other officers: they also present such offences and nuisances at certain times to the lord mayor and common council-men, as require redress.

Small offences are punished by the justices in or out of sessions, by whom the offender is sentenced to be whip'd, imprisoned, or kept to hard labour: but for the trial of capital offences, a commission of oyer and terminer and jail delivery issues eight times every year, *i. e.* before and after every term, directed to the lord-mayor, recorder, some of the twelve judges, and others whom the crown is pleased to assign. These commissioners sit at Justice-hall in the Old Bailey, and bills of indictment having been found by the grand juries of London or Middlesex, containing the prisoner's accusation, a petty jury, consisting of twelve substantial citizens, is impaneled for the trial of each of them: for as to the grand jury, they only consider whether there is such a probability of the prisoner's guilt as to put him upon making his defence, and this is determined by a majority of the grand jury: but the petty jury, who pass upon the prisoner's life and death, must all agree in their verdict, or he cannot be convicted. But though the petty jury judge of the fact, *i. e.* what the crime is, or whether it was committed by the prisoner or not, the commissioners or judges declare what are the punishments appropriated to the several species of crimes, and pronounce judgment accordingly on the offender. In high-treason they sentence the criminal to be drawn upon a hurdle to the place of execution, there to be hanged and quartered. In murder, robbery, and other felonies, which are excluded the benefit of the clergy, the criminal is sentenced to be hanged till he is dead. And for crimes within the benefit of the clergy, the offender is burnt in the hand or transported, at the discretion of the court. And for petty-larceny, *i. e.* where the offender is found guilty of theft under the value of twelve-pence, he is sentenced to be whip'd. But a report being made to his majesty by the recorder, of the circumstances with which the several capital offences were attended, and what may be urged either in aggravation or mitigation of them, the respective criminals are either pardoned or executed according to his majesty's pleasure. But I should have remembered, that the sentence against a woman, either for high or petty-treason, is to be burnt alive. I shall now give some account of the election of the lord-mayor, sheriffs, &c. who are chosen by a majority of the livery-men.

The lord-mayor is elected on Michaelmas-day (from among the aldermen, by the livery-men of the city, who return two aldermen that have served sheriffs to the court of aldermen for their acceptance, who generally declare the first upon the liverymen's roll to be lord mayor) sworn at Guildhall on Simon and Jude, and before the barons of the Exchequer at Westminster the day following.

The lord-mayor appears abroad in very great state at all times, being clothed in scarlet robes, or purple richly furred, according to the season of the year, with a hood of black velvet, and a golden chain or collar of SS about his neck, and a rich jewel pendant thereon, his officers walking before and on both sides, his train held up, and

the city sword and mace borne before him. He keeps open house during his mayoralty, and the sword-bearer is allowed 1,000*l.* for his table. The lord-mayor usually goes to St. Paul's, attended by the aldermen in their gowns, and his officers, every Sunday morning; but especially the first Sunday in term-time, where he meets the twelve judges, and invites them to dinner after divine service is ended.

The sheriffs are chosen into their office on Midsummer-day annually by the livery-men also; to which end the lord-mayor, aldermen, and sheriffs, meet in the council-chamber at Guildhall, about eight in the morning, and coming down afterwards into the Court of Hustings, the recorder declares to the livery-men assembled in the hall, that this is the day prescribed for the election of these magistrates for the year ensuing: then the court of aldermen go up to the lord-mayor's court, till the sheriffs are chosen; the old sheriffs, the chamberlain, common serjeant, town clerk, and other city-officers, remaining in the court of Hustings, to attend the election. After the sheriffs are chosen, the commons proceed to elect a chamberlain, bridge-masters, auditors of the city and bridge-house accounts, and the surveyors of beer and ale, according to custom. The old sheriffs are judges of these elections, and declare by the common-serjeant, who are duly chosen. The sheriffs thus elected take the usual oaths in this court on Michaelmas eve, and the day after Michaelmas-day are presented to the barons of the Exchequer, where they take the oath of office, the oaths of allegiance, &c. The chamberlains and bridge-masters are sworn in the court of aldermen.

Where a lord-mayor elect refuses to serve, he is liable to be fined; and if a person chosen sheriff refuses to serve, he is fined 4*l.* 3*s.* 8*d.* unless he makes oath he is not worth 10,000*l.**

When the alderman of any ward dies, another is within a few days elected in his room, at a wardmote held for that purpose, at which the lord-mayor usually presides. Every alderman has his deputy, who supplies his place in his absence. These deputies are always taken from among the common-council. The aldermen above the chair, and the three eldest aldermen beneath it, are justices of peace in the city by the charter.†

The lord-mayor's jurisdiction in some cases extends a great way beyond the city, upon the river Thames eastward as far as the conflux of the two rivers Thames and Medway, and up the river Lee as far as Temple-mills, being about three miles; and westward as far as Colney-ditch, above Staine's bridge: he names a deputy, called the water-bailiff; whose business is to prevent any incroachments, nuisances, and frauds used by fishermen or others, destructive to the fishery, or hurtful to the navigation of the said waters; and yearly keeps courts for the conservation of the river in the counties it borders upon within the said limits.

The sheriffs also are sheriffs of the county of Middlesex, as well as of London. And here I shall take an opportunity to observe, that the number of aldermen are twenty-six; the number of common council-men two hundred and thirty-four; the number of companies eighty-four; and the number of citizens on the livery, who have a voice in their elections, are computed to be between seven and eight thousand. The twelve principal companies are, 1. The Mercers. 2. Grocers. 3. Drapers. 4. Fishmongers. 5. Goldsmiths. 6. Skinners. 7. Merchant-Taylors. 8. Haberdashers. 9. Salters. 10. Ironmongers. 11. Vintners. 12. Clothworkers. The others are,

* It is since raised to 15,000*l.*

† Now by a late grant from the crown every alderman is a justice of peace within his own ward.

13. The Dyers. 14. Brewers. 15. Leather-Sellers. 16. Pewterers. 17. Barber-Surgeons. 18. Cutlers. 19. Bakers. 20. Wax-Chandlers. 21. Tallow-Chandlers. 22. Armourers. 23. Girdlers. 24. Butchers. 25. Sadlers. 26. Carpenters. 27. Cordwainers. 28. Painter-Stainers. 29. Curriers. 30. Masons. 31. Plumbers. 32. Innholders. 33. Founders. 34. Poulterers. 35. Cooks. 36. Coopers. 37. Tilers and Bricklayers. 38. Bowyers. 39. Fletchers. 40. Blacksmiths. 41. Joiners. 42. Weavers. 43. Woolmen. 44. Scriveners. 45. Fruiterers. 46. Plaisterers. 47. Stationers. 48. Embroiderers. 49. Upholders. 50. Musicians. 51. Turners. 52. *Basket-makers. 53. Glasiers. 54. *Horners. 55. Farriers. 56. *Paviours. 57. Lorimers. 58. Apothecaries. 59. Shipwrights. 60. *Spectacle-makers. 61. *Clock-makers. 62. *Glovers. 63. *Comb-makers. 64. *Felt-makers. 65. Frame-work Knitters. 66. *Silk-Throwers. 67. Carmen. 68. *Pint-makers. 69. Needle-makers. 70. Gardeners. 71. Soap-makers. 72. Tin-Plate Workers. 73. Wheel-wrights. 74. Distillers. 75. Hatband-makers. 76. Patten-makers. 77. Glass-fellers. 78. Tobacco-pipe-makers. 79. Coach and Coach-harness makers. 80. Gun makers. 81. Gold and Silver Wire-Drawers. 82. *Long-Bow-String-makers. 83. Card makers. 84. Fan-makers.

The companies marked with an * before them have no livery-men, and all the freemen of the rest are not upon the livery, that is, intitled to wear the gowns belonging to the respective companies, and vote in elections, but a select number of freemen only. Every company is a distinct corporation, being incorporated by grants from the crown, or acts of parliament, and having certain rules, liberties, and privileges, for the better support and government of their several trades and mysteries: many of them are endowed with lands to a great value, and have their masters, wardens, assistants, clerks, and other officers, to direct and regulate their affairs, and to restrain and punish abuses incident to their several trades: and when any disputes arise concerning the due execution of these charters, the lord-mayor has a supreme power to determine the case and to punish the offenders.

The military government of the city of London is lodged in the lieutenancy, consisting of the lord-mayor, aldermen, and other principal citizens, who receive their authority from his majesty's commission, which he revokes and alters as often as he sees fit: these have under their command six regiments of foot, viz. 1. The White. 2. The Orange. 3. The Yellow. 4. The Blue. 5. The Green. And 6. The Red Regiment. In every one of which are eight companies, consisting of one hundred and fifty men each; in all, seven thousand two hundred men: besides which there is a kind of independent company, called the artillery company, consisting of seven or eight hundred volunteers, whose skill in military discipline is much admired by their fellow-citizens. These exercise frequently in the Artillery-ground, engage in mock fights and sieges, and storm the dunghills with great address.

The tower-hamlets, it has been observed already, are commanded by the lieutenant of the tower, and consist of two regiments of foot, eight hundred each: so that the whole militia of London, exclusive of Westminster and Southwark, amount to near ten thousand men.

London, like other cities of the kingdom, is, or ought to be governed by its bishop in spirituals; though his authority is very little regarded at present. The justices of peace at their sessions may empower any man to preach, and administer the sacraments, let his occupation or qualifications be never so mean; nor do they ever refuse it to a person who is able to raise the small sum of — pence, being less a great deal than is paid for licensing a common alehouse. A clergyman indeed cannot be intitled to a be-

nefice, without being, in some measure, subject to his diocesan; but he may throw off his gown, and assemble a congregation that shall be much more beneficial to him, and propagate what doctrines he sees fit (as is evident in the case of orator Henley): but to proceed.

The diocese of London is in the province of Canterbury, and comprehends the counties of Middlesex and Essex, and part of Hertfordshire; the British plantations in America are also subject to this bishop.* To the cathedral of St. Paul's belongs a dean, three residentiaries, a treasurer, chancellor, precentor, and thirty prebendaries. The bishop of London takes place next to the archbishops of Canterbury and York, but his revenues are not equal to those of Durham or Winchester. The deanery of St. Paul's is said to be worth a thousand pounds *per annum*, and each of the residentiaries about three hundred pounds *per annum*.

The parishes within the walls of London are ninety-seven; but several of them having been united since the fire, there are at present but sixty-two parish churches, and consequently the same number of parish-priests: the revenues of these gentlemen are seldom less than 100*l.* *per annum*, and none more than 200*l.* *per annum*. They appear to be most of them about 150*l.* *per annum*, besides their several parsonage-houses and surplice-fees; and most of them have lectureships in town, or livings in the country, or some other spiritual preferment of equal value.

The city of Westminster, the western part of the town, comes next under consideration which received its name from the abbey or minster situated to the westward of London. This city, if we comprehend the district or liberties belonging to it, lies along the banks of the Thames in the form of a bow or crescent, extending from Temple-bar in the east to Mill-bank in the south-west; the inside of this bow being about a mile and a half in length, and the outside two miles and a half at least; the breadth, one place with another, from the Thames to the fields on the north-west side of the town, about a mile; and I am apt to think a square of two miles in length and one in breadth, would contain all the buildings within the liberty of Westminster. That part of the town which is properly called the city of Westminster, contains no more than St. Margaret's and St. John's parishes, which form a triangle, one side whereof extends from Whitehall to Peterborough-house on Mill bank, another side reaches from Peterborough-house to Stafford house, or Tart-hall, at the west end of the Park, and the third side extends from Stafford-house to Whitehall; the circumference of the whole being about two miles. This spot of ground, it is said, was anciently an island, a branch of the Thames running through the Park from west to east, and falling into the main river again about Whitehall, which island was originally called Thorney island, from the woods and bushes that covered it; the abbey or minster also was at first called Thorney-abbey or minster, from the island on which it stood.

St. James's park is something more than a mile in circumference, and the form pretty near oval; about the middle of it runs a canal 2800 feet in length, and 100 in breadth, and near it are several other waters, which form an island that has good cover for the breeding and harbouring wild ducks and other water-fowl; on the island also is a pretty house and garden, scarce visible to the company in the park; on the north side are several fine walks of elms and limes half a mile in length, of which the Mall is one; the palace of St. James's, Marlborough-house, and the fine buildings in the street called Pall-mall, adorn this side of the Park; at the east end is a view of the Admiralty, a magnificent edifice, lately built with brick and stone; the Horse-guards, the Banqueting-

* By patent from King George I.

house, the most elegant fabrick in the kingdom, with the treasury and the fine buildings about the Cockpit; and between these and the end of the grand canal is a spacious parade, where the horse and foot guards rendezvous every morning before they mount their respective guards.

On the south side of the Park run shady walks of trees from east to west, parallel almost to the canal, and walks on the north; adjoining to which are the sumptuous houses in Queen street, Queen-square, &c. inhabited by people of quality: and the west end of the Park is adorned with the Duke of Buckingham's beautiful seat. But what renders St. James's park one of the most delightful scenes in nature, is the variety of living objects which is met with here; for besides the deer and wild-fowl, common to other parks, besides the water, fine walks, and the elegant buildings that surround it, hither the politest part of the British nation of both sexes frequently resort in the spring, to take the benefit of the evening air, and enjoy the most agreeable conversation imaginable: and those who have a taste for martial musick, and the shining equipage of the soldiery, will find their eyes and ears agreeably entertained by the horse and foot guards every morning.

The Sanctuary, or the Abbey-yard, is a large open square, between King-street and the Gatehouse, north-west of the Abbey, and was called the Sanctuary, because any person who came within these limits was entitled to the privilege of sanctuary, that is, he was not liable to be apprehended by any officers of justice.

This privilege, it is said, was first granted to the Abbey by Sebert, king of the East Saxons, increased by King Edgar, and confirmed by Edward the Confessor, by the following charter:

'Edward, by the grace of God, king of Englishmen; I make it to be known to all generations of the world after me, that, by special commandment of our holy father Pope Leo, I have renewed and honoured the holy church of the blessed apostle St. Peter of Westminster; and I order and establish for ever, that what person, of what condition or estate soever he be, from whencesoever he come, or for what offence or cause it be, either for his refuge in the said holy place, he is assured of his life, liberty and limbs: and over this, I forbid, under pain of everlasting damnation, that no minister of mine, or any of my successors, intermeddle with any of the goods, lands, and possessions of the said persons taking the said sanctuary: for I have taken their goods and livelode into my special protection. And therefore I grant to every, each of them, in as much as my terrestrial power may suffice, all manner of freedom of joyous liberty. And whosoever presumes, or doth contrary to this my grant, I will he lose his name, worship, dignity, and power; and that with the great traitor Judas that betraided our Saviour, he be in the everlasting fire of hell. And I will and ordain, that this my grant endure as long as there remaineth in England, either love or dread of christian name.'

This privilege of sanctuary, as far as it related to traitors, murderers, and felons, was in a great measure abolished, by a statute of the 32d Henry VIII: and in the beginning of the reign of queen Elizabeth, every debtor, who fled to sanctuary, to shelter himself from his creditors, was obliged to take an oath of the following tenour, viz. That he did not claim the privilege of sanctuary to defraud any one of his goods, debts, or money; but only for the security of his person, until he should be able to pay his creditors.

That he would give in a true particular of his debts and credits.

That he would endeavour to pay his debts as soon as possible.

That he would be present at the abbey at morning and evening prayer.

That

That he would demean himself honestly and quietly, avoid suspected houses, unlawful games, banquetting, and riotous company.

That he would wear no weapon, or be out of his lodging before sun-rise, or after sun-set, nor depart out of the precinct of the sanctuary, without the leave of the dean, or archdeacon in his absence.

That he would be obedient to the dean and the officers of the house.

And lastly, That if he should break his oath in any particular, he should not claim the privilege of sanctuary.

And if any creditor could make it appear, that he had any money, goods, or chattels, that were not contained in the particular given in to the dean and the church, the sanctuary-man was to be imprisoned till he came to an agreement with his creditors.

The Abbey-church of St. Peter at Westminster appears to be very ancient, though far from being so ancient as is vulgarly reported.

Some relate, without any authority to support the conjecture, that it was founded in the days of the Apostles by St. Peter himself: others that it was erected by King Lucius about the year 170. And by some it is said to have been built by King Sebert, the first christian King of the East-Saxons (Essex and Middlesex) *anno* 611.—But I take it for granted the church was not built before the convent or abbey it belonged to: People did not use to build churches at a distance from towns, unless for the service of convents or religious houses; but neither in the times of the apostles, or in the supposed reign of King Lucius, in the second century, was there any such thing as a convent in England, or perhaps in any part of Christendom. During the dominion of the Saxons in this island, monasteries indeed were erected here, and in many other kingdoms in great abundance; and as the monks generally chose thick woods or other solitary places for their residence, where they could meet with a spot of ground fitter for their purpose than this woody island called Thorney, then destitute of inhabitants? But I am inclined to think, that neither this or any other monastery was erected in South Britain till the seventh century, after Austin the monk came into England. As to the tradition of its having been built upon the ruins of the temple of Apollo, destroyed by an earthquake, I do not doubt but the monks were very ready to propagate a fable of this kind, who formed so many others, to shew the triumphs of christianity over paganism, and to induce their proselytes to believe, that heaven miraculously interposed in their favour, by earthquakes, storms, and other prodigies. But to proceed: when the convent was erected, I make no doubt, that there was a church or chapel built as usual, for the service of the monks; but it is evident from history, that the dimensions of the first or second church that stood here, were not comparable to those of the present church.

We may rely upon it, that about the year 850, there was a church and convent in the island of Thorney; because about that time London being in the possession of the Danes, the convent was destroyed by them, (not in the year 659, as some writers have affirmed, because the Danes did not invade England till near 200 years afterwards.) The abbey lay in ruins about an hundred years; when king Edgar, at the instance of Dunstan, abbot of Glaffenbury, (and afterwards archbishop of Canterbury) rebuilt this and several other monasteries, about the year 960. Edward the Confessor, a devout Prince, enlarged this church and monastery, in which he placed the Benedictine monks, ordered the *regalia* to be kept by the fathers of the convent, and succeeding kings to be crowned here, as William the Conqueror, and several other English monarchs afterwards were, most of them enriching this abbey with large revenues; but King Henry III. ordered the church built by Edward the Confessor to be pulled down, and erected the present magnificent

magnificent fabrick in the room of it, of which he laid the first stone about the year 1245.

That admired piece of architecture at the east end, dedicated to the virgin Mary, was built by Henry VII. *anno* 1502, and from the founder is usually called Henry the VIIth's chapel. Here most of the English monarchs since that time have been interred.

The dimensions of the abbey church, according to the new survey, are as follow, viz. The length of the church, from the west end of it to the east end of St. Edward's chapel, is 354 feet, the breadth of the west end 66 feet, the breadth of the cross isle, from north to south, 189 feet, the height of the middle roof 92 feet, the distance from the west end of the church to the choir, 162 feet, and from the west end to the cross isle 220 feet, the distance from the east end of St. Edward's chapel to the west end of Henry VIIth's chapel, 36 feet, and the length of Henry VIIth's chapel 99 feet: so that the length of the whole building is 489 feet, the breadth of Henry VIIth's chapel 66 feet, and the height 54 feet. The nave and cross isles of the abbey-church are supported by fifty slender pillars of Suffex marble, besides forty-five demi-pillars or pilasters. There are an upper and lower range of windows, being ninety-four in number, those at the four ends of the cross very spacious. All which, with the arches, roofs, doors, &c. are of the ancient Gothick order. Above the chapiters the pillars spread into several semi-cylindrical branches, forming and adorning the arches of the pillars, and those of the roofs of the isles, which are three in number, running from east to west, and a cross isle running from north to south. The choir is paved with black and white marble, in which are 28 stalls on the north side, as many on the south, and eight at the west end; from the choir we ascend by several steps to a most magnificent marble altar-piece, which would be esteemed a beauty in an Italian church.

Beyond the altar is King Edward the Confessor's chapel, surrounded with eleven or twelve other chapels replenished with monuments of the British nobility, for a particular whereof I refer the reader to the antiquities of St. Peter's, or the abbey-church of Westminster, by J. Crull, M. D. Lond. 1711. 8vo. and the several supplements printed since, and shall only take notice of those of the kings and queens in the chapel of St. Edward the Confessor, which are as follow, viz. Edward I, king of England, Henry III, Matilda wife of Henry I, queen Eleanor wife of Edward I. St. Edward the Confessor, and queen Editha his wife, Henry V, and queen Catharine of Valois his wife, Edward III, and queen Philippa his wife, Richard II, and queen Anne his wife: and on the south side of the choir king Sebert, and queen Anne of Cleve, wife to Henry VIII. East of St. Edward's chapel is that of Henry VII, dedicated to the blessed virgin Mary, to which we ascend by twelve stone steps. At the west end whereof are three brazen doors finely wrought, which give an entrance into it. The stalls on the north and south sides are exquisitely carved. The roof is supported by twelve pillars and arches of the Gothick order, abounding with enrichments of carved figures, fruit, &c. At the east end is a spacious window with stained glass; besides which, there are thirteen other windows above, and as many below on the north and south sides. Under each of the thirteen uppermost windows are five figures placed in niches, representing kings, queens, bishops, &c. and under them the figures of as many angels supporting imperial crowns. The roof, which is all stone, is divided into sixteen circles curiously wrought, and is the admiration of all that see it.

The outside of this chapel was adorned with fourteen towers, three figures being placed in niches on each of them, which were formerly much admired; but the stone decaying and mouldering away, they make but an odd appearance at present.

In

In this chapel have been interred most of the English kings since Richard the 3d, whose tombs are no small ornament to it, particularly that of Henry VII. the founder, which stands in the middle of the area towards the east end.

The tomb is composed of a curious pedestal, whose sides are adorned with various figures, as the north with those of six men, the east with those of two cupids supporting the king's arms and an imperial crown; on the south side also six figures circumscribed (as those on the north side) with circles of curious workmanship, the most easterly of which contains the figure of an angel treading on a dragon: here is also a woman and a child, seeming to allude to *Rev. xii.* and on the west end the figure of a rose and an imperial crown, supported with those of a dragon and a greyhound: on the tomb are the figures of the king and queen, lying at full length, with four angels, one at each angle of the tomb, all very finely done in brass.

The screen or fence is also of solid brass, very strong and spacious, being in length 19 feet, in breadth 11, and the altitude 11, adorned with 42 pillars and their arches; also 20 smaller hollow columns and their arches in the front of the former, and joined at the cornish, on which cornish is a kind of acroteria, enriched with roses and port-cullises interchanged in the upper part, and with the small figures of dragons and greyhounds (the supporters aforesaid) in the lower part: and at each of the four angles is a strong pillar made open or hollow, composed in imitation of diaper and Gothick arch-work; the four sides have been adorned with 32 figures of men about a cubit high, placed in niches, of which there are only seven left, the rest being stolen away (one Raymond, about the 11th of Queen Elizabeth, having been twice indicted for the same;) and about the middle of the upper part of each of the four sides is a spacious branch adorned with the figure of a rose, where might on occasion be placed lamps. This admirable piece of art is open at top, and has two portals, one on the north, the other on the south side, all of fine brass.

This royal founder's epitaph.

*Septimus Henricus tumulo requiescit in isto,
Qui regum splendor, lumen & orbis erat.
Rex, Virgil, & sapiens, comes virtutis amatur,
Egregius forma, strenuus atque potens.
Qui peperit pacem regno, qui bella peregit
Plurima, qui victor semper ab hoste redit;
Qui natus binis conjunxit regibus ambas,
Regibus & cunctis, fœdere junctus erat.
Qui sacrum hoc struxit templum, statuitq; sepulchrum
Pro se, proque sua conjuge, proque domo.
Lustra decem atq; annos, tres plus compleverit annos,
Nam tribus octenis regia sceptrâ tulit;
Quindecies Domini centenus fluxerat annus,
Currebat nonus, cum venit arat dies;
Septima ter mensis lux tunc fulgebat Aprilis,
Cum clausit summum tanta corona diem.
Nulla dedere prius tantum sibi sæcula regem
Anglia, vix similem posteriora dabunt.*

*Septimus hic situs est Henricus gloria regum
Cunctorum, ipsius qui tempestate fuerunt;
Ingenio atq; opibus gestarum & nomine rerum,*

Accessere

*Accessere quibus naturæ dona benignæ :
Frontis bonos facies augusta heroica forma ;
Junctaque ei suavis conjux per pulchra pudica,
Et sæcunda fuit ; felices prole parentes,
Henricum quibus octavum terra Anglia debet.*

Under the figure of the king.

Hic jacet Henricus ejus nominis septimus, Angliæ quondam rex, Edmundi Richmondia comitis filius, qui die 22 Aug. Rex creatus, statim post apud Westmonasterium die 30 Octob. coronatur 1485. Moritur deinde 21 die Aprilis anno ætat. 53, regnavit annos 23, menses 8, minus uno die.

Under the queen's figure.

Hic jacet regina Elizabetha, Edwardi quarti quondam regis filia, Edwardi quinti regis quondam nominator soror : Henrici septimi olim regis conjux, atq; Henrici octavi regis mater inclyta ; obiit autem suum diem in turri Londoniarum die secund. Feb. anno Domini 1502, 37 anuorum ætate functa.

The modern tombs in the abbey, best worth the viewing, are those of the duke of Newcastle, on the left hand as we enter the north door, of Sir Isaac Newton, at the west end of the choir, of Sir Godfrey Kneller, and Mr. secretary Craggs at the west end of the abbey, of Mr. Prior among the poets at the door which faces the Old Palace-yard, of the duke of Buckingham in Henry the VIIth's chapel, and that of Dr. Chamberlain on the north side of the choir : most of these are admirable pieces of sculpture, and shew that the statuary's art is not entirely lost in this country ; though it must be confessed the English fall short of the Italians in this science.

Westminster-hall is one of the largest rooms in Europe, being two hundred and twenty-eight feet in length, sixty-six feet broad, and ninety feet high. The walls are of stone, the windows of the Gothick form, the floor stone, and the roof of timber covered with lead ; and having not one pillar in it, is supported by buttresses. It is usually observed, that there are no cobwebs ever seen in this hall, and the reason given for this is, that the timber of which the roof is composed is Irish oak, in which spiders will not harbour ; but I am inclined to believe this is a fact not to be depended on, for I find the timber for rebuilding and repairing the palace of Westminster in the reign of Richard III. was brought from the forests in Essex ; and as there is no colour from history to surmise that the timber of this hall was Irish oak, so is there no imaginable reason why timber should be fetched from another kingdom for the repair of the hall, when the counties of Middlesex and Essex were great part of them forest, and afforded timber enough to have built twenty such places ; and we find, that the timber of the Essex forests was in fact applied to the repairs of this palace ; for it cannot be pretended that the present roof is the same that was erected by William Rufus when it was first built, it appearing that Richard II. about the year 1397, caused the old roof to be taken down, and a new one made (as has been observed already) and this is probably the same we now see. Here are hung up as trophies, 138 colours, and 34 standards, taken from the French and Bavarians at Hockstet, anno 1704.

The House of Lords, or chamber where the peers assemble in parliament, is situated between the Old Palace-yard and the Thames. It is a spacious room, of an oblong form, at the south end whereof is the king's throne, to which he ascends by several steps : on the right hand of the throne is a seat for the prince of Wales, and on the left another for the princes of the blood, and behind the throne the seats of the peers under age.

On the east side of the house, to the right of the throne, sit the archbishops and bishops; on the opposite side of the house sit the dukes, marquises, earls, and viscounts; and on forms crossing the area, the barons under the degree of viscounts.

Before the throne are three wool-sacks, or broad seats stuffed with wool, to put the legislature in mind, it is said, that the right management of this trade is of the last importance to the kingdom. On the first of these wool-sacks, next to the throne, sits the lord chancellor, or keeper, who is speaker of the house of peers; and on the other two, the lord chief justices, and the rest of the judges, with the master of the rolls, and the other masters in chancery: about the middle of the house, on the east side, is a chimney, where a fire is usually kept in the winter; and towards the north, or lower end of the house, is a bar that runs cross it, to which the commons advance when they bring up bills or impeachments, or when the king sends for them, and without this bar the counsel and witnesses stand at trials before the peers. The house is at present hung with tapestry, containing the history of the defeat of the Spanish Armada, in the reign of queen Elizabeth, *anno* 1588.

The house or chamber where the commons assemble, is to the northward of the House of Lords, and stands east and west, as the other does north and south. The room is pretty near square, and towards the upper end is the speaker's armed chair, to which he ascends by a step or two; before it is a table, where the clerks sit, on which the mace lies when the speaker is in the chair, and at other times the mace is laid under the table. On the north and south sides, and at the west end, are seats gradually ascending as in a theatre, and between the seats at the west end is the entrance by a pair of folding doors. There are galleries also on the north, south, and west, where strangers are frequently admitted to hear the debates.

This room was anciently a chapel, founded by King Stephen about the year 1141, and dedicated to the blessed Virgin; however, it obtained the name of St. Stephen's chapel. It was rebuilt by King Edward III. *anno* 1347, who placed in it a dean, 12 secular canons, 13 vicars, 4 clerks, 5 choristers, a verger, and a keeper of the chapel, and built them a convent, which extended along the Thames, endowing it with large revenues, which at the dissolution of monasteries in the reign of Edward VI. amounted to near eleven thousand pounds *per annum*. Almost ever since the dissolution, this chapel has been converted to the use we find it at present, viz. for the session of the lower house of parliament, who, before that time, usually assembled in the chapter-house belonging to the abbey, when the parliament met at Westminster. The painted chamber lies between the house of lords and the house of commons, and here the committees of both houses usually meet at a conference; but neither this or the other remaining apartments of this palace of Westminster, have any thing in them that merit a particular description.

The open place usually called Charing-cross, from a fine cross which stood there before the grand rebellion, is of a triangular form, having the Pall-mall and the Haymarket on the north-west, the Strand on the east, and the street before Whitehall on the south. In the middle of this space is erected a brazen equestrian statue of King Charles I. looking towards the place where that prince was murdered by the rebels, who had erected a scaffold for that purpose before the gates of his own palace. This statue is erected on a stone pedestal 17 feet high, enriched with his majesty's arms, trophy-work, palm-branches, &c. inclosed with an iron palisade, and was erected by King Charles II. after his restoration. The brick buildings south-east of Charing-cross are mostly beautiful and uniform, and the king's stables in the Meuse, which lie north of it, and are now magnificently rebuilding of hewn stone, will probably make Charing-cross

cross as fine a place as any we have in town ;* especially as it stands upon an eminence overlooking Whitehall.

The Banqueting house stands on the east side of the street adjoining to the great gate of Whitehall on the south. This edifice is built of hewn stone, and consists of one stately room, of an oblong form, upwards of forty feet in height, the length and breadth proportionable, having galleries round it on the inside, the ceiling beautifully painted by that celebrated history-painter Sir Peter Paul Reubens : it is adorned on the outside with a lower and upper range of columns of the Ionick and Composite orders, their capitals enriched with fruit, foliage, &c. the inter-columns of the upper and lower range, being handsome slated windows. It is surrounded on the top with stone rails or balustrades, and covered with lead.

St. James's Palace, where the royal family now resides in the winter season, stands pleasantly upon the north side of the Park, and has several noble rooms in it, but is an irregular building, by no means suitable to the grandeur of the British monarch its master. In the front next St. James's street, there appears little more than an old gate house, by which we enter a little square court, with a piazza on the west side of it leading to the grand stair case ; and there are two other courts beyond, which have not much the air of a prince's palace. This palace was an hospital, suppressed by Henry VIII. who built this edifice in the room of it.

But the house most admired for its situation, is that of the duke of Buckingham at the west end of the Park ; in the front of which, towards the Mall and the grand canal, is a spacious court, the offices on each side having a communication with the house by two little bending piazzas and galleries that form the wings. This front is adorned with two ranges of pilasters of the Corinthian and Tuscan orders, and over them is an acroteria of figures, representing Mercury, Secrecy, Equity, and Liberty, and under them this inscription in large golden characters, viz. SIC SITI LÆTANTVR LARES, Thus situated, may the household gods rejoice.

Behind the house is a fine garden and terras, from whence there is a prospect of the adjacent country, which gave occasion to another inscription on the house on that side, viz. RVS IN VRBE, intimating, that it has the advantages both of city and country ; above which are figures representing the four seasons. The hall is paved with marble, and adorned with pilasters, the intercolumns exquisite paintings in great variety ; and on a pedestal, near the foot of the grand stair case, is a marble figure of Cain killing his brother Abel ; the whole structure exceeding magnificent, rich, and beautiful, but especially in the finishing and furniture.

Grosvenor or Gravenor-square is bounded on the north by Oxford road, on the east by Hanover square, by May-fair on the south, and by Hyde-park on the west ; the area whereof contains about five acres of ground, in which is a large garden laid out into walks, and adorned with an equestrian statue of King George I. gilded with gold, and standing on a pedestal, in the center of the garden, the whole surrounded with palliades placed upon a dwarf wall. The buildings generally are the most magnificent we meet with in this great town ; though the fronts of the houses are not all alike, for some of them are entirely of stone, others of brick and stone, and others of rubbed brick, with only their quoins, facios, windows and door cases of stone ; some of them are adorned with stone columns of the several orders, while others have only plain fronts ; but they are so far uniform as to be all slated, and of pretty near an equal height. To the kitchens and offices, which have little paved yards with vaults before

* These are now finished, and answer the conjecture of this author.

them, they descend by twelve or fifteen steps, and these yards are defended by an high palisade of iron. Every house has a garden behind it, and many of them coach-houses and stables adjoining; and others have stables near the square, in a place that has obtained the name of Grosvenor-Meuse. The finishing of the houses within is equal to the figure they make without; the stair-cases of some of them I saw were inlaid, and perfect cabinet-work, and the paintings on the roof and sides by the best hands. The apartments usually consist of a long range of fine rooms, equally commodious and beautiful; none of the houses are without two or three stair-cases for the convenience of the family. The grand stair-case is generally in the hall or saloon at the entrance. In short this square may well be looked upon as the beauty of the town, and those who have not seen it cannot have an adequate idea of the place.

The city of Westminster at this day consists of the parishes of St. Margaret and St. John the Evangelist, and the liberties of Westminster, viz. St. Martin's in the Fields, St. Mary le Savoy, St. Mary le Strand, St. Clement's Danes, St. Paul's Covent-garden, St. James's Westminster, St. George's Hanover-square, and St. Anne's Westminster; all under the government of the dean and chapter of Westminster, and their subordinate officers; or rather, of a high steward, and such other officers as are appointed by them; for since the reformation, the dean and chapter seem to have delegated their civil power to such officers as they elect for life, who are not accountable to, or liable to be displaced by them, nor are they liable to forfeit their offices, but for such offences as a private man may lose his estate, namely, for high-treason, felony, &c. as happened in the case of their high-steward, the duke of Ormond, upon whose attainder, the dean and chapter proceeded to a new election.

The next officer to the high-steward is the deputy-steward, appointed by the high-steward, and confirmed by the dean and chapter, who is usually a gentleman learned in the law, being judge of their court for trial of civil actions between party and party, which is held usually on Wednesday every week. They have also a court-leet, held annually on St. Thomas's-day, for the choice of officers, and removal of nuisances. The deputy-steward supplies the place of sheriff of Westminster, except in the return of members of parliament, which is done by the high-bailiff, an officer nominated by the dean and chapter, and confirmed by the high-steward. The high-bailiff also is entitled to all fines, forfeitures, waifs and strays in Westminster, which makes it a very profitable post.

The high-constable, chosen by the burgeses at their court-leet, and approved by the steward or his deputy, is an officer of some consideration in this city also, to whom all the rest of the constables are subject.

The burgeses are sixteen in number, seven for the city, and nine for the liberties of Westminster, appointed by the high-steward or his deputy, every one of whom has his assistant, and has particular wards or districts: out of these burgeses are chosen two chief burgeses, one for the city, the other for the liberties. The dean, high-steward, or his deputy, the bailiffs and burgeses, or a quorum of them, are empowered to make by-laws, and take cognizance of small offences, within the city and liberties of Westminster. But I look upon it, that the justices of peace for Westminster, have in a great measure superseded the authority of the burgeses (except as to weights, measures, and nuisances) by virtue of whose warrants, all petty offenders almost are apprehended and sent to Tothill-fields Bridewell; and for higher offences, the same justices commit criminals to Newgate, or the Gatehouse, who receive their trials before commissioners of oyer and terminer at the Old-Bailey, as notorious criminals in the city of London do; and so far the two united cities may be said to be under the same government.

The precinct of St. Martin's le Grand in London, is deemed a part of the city of Westminster, and the inhabitants vote in the elections of members of parliament for Westminster.

The ecclesiastical government of the city of Westminster is in the dean and chapter, whose commissary has the jurisdiction in all ecclesiastical causes, and the probate of wills; from whom there lies no appeal to the archbishop of Canterbury, or other spiritual judge, but to the king in Chancery alone, who upon such appeal issues a commission under the great seal of England, constituting a court of delegates to determine the cause finally.

I next proceed to survey the out-parishes in the county of Middlesex and Surrey, which are comprehended within the bills of mortality, and esteemed part of this great town: and first, St. Giles's in the Fields contains these chief streets and places; Great Lincoln's Inn-Fields, part of Lincoln's-Inn Garden, Turnstile, Whetstone-Park, part of High-Holborn, part of Duke-street, Old and New Wild-street, Princes-street, Queen-street, part of Drury-lane, Brownlow-street, Bolton-street, Castle-street, King street, the Seven-dials, or seven streets comprehending Earl-street, Queen-street, White-Lion-street, and St. Andrew's-street, Monmouth-street, the east side of Hog-lane, Stedwell-street, and Staig-street.*

Great Lincoln's-Inn Fields or Square contains about ten acres of ground, and is something longer than it is broad, the longest sides extending from east to west: the buildings on the west and south generally make a grand figure.

In the parish of St. Sepulchre, which is without the liberties of the city of London, we meet with Hicks's-hall and the Charter-house.

Hicks's-hall is situated in the middle of St. John's-street, towards the south end, and is the sessions house for the justices of peace of the county of Middlesex, having been erected for this end *anno* 1612, by Sir Baptist Hicks, a mercer in Cheapside, then a justice of the peace. The justices before holding their sessions at the Castle-Inn near Smithfield-bars.

To the eastward of Hicks's-hall stood the late dissolved monastery of the Charter-house, founded by Sir Walter Manny, a native of the Low-Countries, knighted by King Edward III. for services done to this crown probably in the wars against France.

Sir Walter Manny at first erected only a chapel, and assigned it to be the burial-place of all strangers; but in the year 1371, Sir Walter founded a monastery of Carthusian monks here, transferring to these fathers thirteen acres and a rood of land, with the said chapel: The revenues of which convent, on the dissolution of monasteries, 30 Henry VIII. amounted to 642*l.* 4*d.* 10*b.* *per annum*.

Sir Thomas Audley soon after obtained a grant of this Carthusian monastery, together with Duke's-Place, and gave the former in marriage with his daughter Margaret to Thomas duke of Norfolk, from whom it descended to the Earl of Suffolk, and was called Howard-house, the surname of that noble family; by which name Thomas Sutton, Esq. purchased it of the Earl of Suffolk for thirteen thousand pounds, *anno* 1611, and converted it into an hospital by virtue of letters patent obtained from King James I. which were afterwards confirmed by act of parliament, 3 *Car.* I.

The manors, lands, tenements, and hereditaments, which the founder

settled upon this hospital amounted to <i>per annum</i> .	-	-	4493 <i>l.</i> 19 <i>s.</i> 1 <i>d.</i>
The revenues purchased by his executors, &c. after his death, to <i>per annum</i>	-	-	897 13 9

Total of the charity <i>per annum</i>	-	-	5391 13 7
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* This was the description of St. Giles's parish before St. George's Bloomsbury was taken out of it.

But the revenues now amount to upwards of 6000*l. per annum* by the improvement of the rents. This charity was given for the maintenance of fourscore old men, who were to be either gentlemen by descent reduced to poverty, soldiers by sea or land, merchants who had suffered by piracy or shipwreck, or servants of the king's household, and were to be fifty years of age and upwards at their admission, except maimed soldiers, who are capable of being admitted at forty years of age: nor are any to be admitted who are afflicted with leprosy, or any unclean or infectious disease, or who shall be possessed of the value of two hundred pounds, or fourteen pounds per annum for life, or who are married men. No poor brother to go beyond sea without the licence of six of the governors, nor to go into the country for above two months without the master's leave, and during such absence, shall be allowed but two thirds of his commons in money besides his salary; and if a brother go out and is arrested, he shall have no allowance during his absence, but his place to be reserved till the governors pleasure be known.

No brother to pass the gates of the hospital in his livery-gown, or to lie out of the house, or solicit causes, or molest any of the king's subjects, under a certain pecuniary pain; and all other duties, such as frequenting chapel, decent cloathing and behaviour, to be regulated by the governors.

This munificent benefactor also founded a grammar-school in the Charter-house, to consist of a master, usher, and forty scholars.

No scholars to be admitted at above fourteen, or under ten years of age.

The scholars are habited in black gowns; and when any of them are fit for the university and are elected, each of them receives twenty pounds *per annum* for eight years, out of the revenues of the house; and such boys as are found more fit for trades are bound out, and a considerable sum of money given with them.

When any of the forty boys are disposed of, or any of the old men die, others are placed in their rooms by the governors in their turns.

The master is to be an unmarried man, aged about forty; one that hath no preferment in church or state, which may draw him from his residence and care of the hospital.

The preacher must be a master of arts, of seven years standing in one of the universities of England, and one who has preached four years.

The governors meet in December, to take the year's accounts, view the state of the hospital, and to determine other affairs; and again, in June or July, to dispose of the scholars to the university or trades, make elections, &c. And a committee of five at the least is appointed at the assembly in December yearly, to visit the school between Easter and Midsummer, &c.

The buildings of the Charter-house take up a great deal of ground, and are commodious enough, but have no great share of beauty. This house has pretty much the air of a college or monastery, of which the principal rooms are the chapel and the hall; and the old men, who are members of the society, have their several cells as the monks have in Portugal.

The chapel is built of brick and boulder, and is about 63 feet in length, 38 in breadth, and 24 in height. Here Sir William Manny, founder of the Carthusian monastery, was buried; and here was interred Mr. Sutton, the founder of the hospital: whose monument is at the north-east angle of the chapel, being of black and white marble, adorned with four columns, with pedestals and entablature of the Corinthian order, between which lies his effigies at length in a fur-gown, his face upwards, and the palms of his hands joined over his breast; and on the tomb is the following inscription: *Sacred to*

the glory of God, in grateful memory of Thomas Sutton, Esq. here lieth buried the body of Thomas Sutton, late of Castle Camps, in the county of Cambridge, Esq. at whose only cost and charges this hospital was founded, and endowed with large possessions, for the relief of poor men and children. He was a gentleman born at Knayth in the county of Lincoln, of worthy and honest parentage. He lived to the age of 79 years, and deceased the 12th day of Dec. 1611.

The Charter-house gardens are exceeding pleasant, and of a very great extent, considering they stand so far within this great town.

I shall, in the next place, survey the free-schools and charity schools.

Anciently, I have read, that there were three principal churches in London that had each of them a famous school belonging to it; and these three churches are supposed to be, 1. The cathedral church of St. Paul; because, at a general council holden at Rome, *anno* 1176, it was decreed, "That every cathedral church should have its school-master, to teach poor scholars, and others, as had been accustomed; and that no man should take any reward for license to teach." 2. The abbey-church of St. Peter at Westminster; for of the school here, Ingulphus, abbot of Croyland, in the reign of William the Conqueror, writes as follows: "I Ingulphus, an humble servant of God, born of English parents, in the most beautiful city of London, for attaining to learning, was first put to Westminster, and after to study at Oxford, &c." 3. The abbey-church of St. Saviour, at Bermondsey, in Southwark; for this is supposed to be the most ancient and most considerable monastery about the city at that time, next to that of St. Peter at Westminster; though there is no doubt but the convents of St. John by Clerkenwell, St. Bartholomew in Smithfield, St. Mary Overy in Southwark, that of the Holy Trinity by Aldgate, and other monasteries about the city, had their respective schools, though not in such reputation as the three first. Of these none are now existing but St. Paul's and Westminster, though perhaps on different and later foundations: yet other schools have been erected in this metropolis from time to time, amongst which I find that called Merchant-Taylors to be the most considerable.

St. Paul's school is situated on the east side of St. Paul's church yard; being a handsome fabrick built with brick and stone, founded by John Collet, D. D. and dean of St. Paul's, *anno* 1512, who appointed a high-master, sur-master, a chaplain or under-master, and 153 scholars, to be taught by them *gratis*, of any nation or country. He also left some exhibitions to such scholars as are sent to the universities, and have continued at this school three years. The masters are elected by the wardens and assistants of the Mercers company; and the scholars are admitted by the master, upon a warrant directed to him by the surveyor. The elections for the university are in March, before Lady-day; and they are allowed their exhibitions for seven years. To this school belongs a library, consisting chiefly of classic authors. The frontispiece is adorned with bustos, entablature, pediments, festoons, shields, vases, and the Mercer's arms cut in stone, with this inscription over the door, *INGREDERE UT PROFICIAS*; upon every window of the school was written, by the founder's direction, *AUT DOCE, AUT DISCE, AUT DISCEDE*, *i. e.* either teach, learn, or be gone.

The founder, in the ordinances to be observed in this school, says, he founded it to the honour of the child Jesus, and of his blessed mother Mary; and directs, that the master be of a healthful constitution, honest, virtuous, and learned in Greek and Latin; that he be a married or single man, or a priest that hath no cure; that his wages should be a mark a week, and a livery gown of four nobles, with a house in town, and another at Stebonheath (Stepney*); that there should be no play-days

* This house stands at the upper end of White-horse-street, on the south side of Stepney church-yard; was the residence of the founder's mother, and is now tenanted by Captain Thomas Hunt, a late reputable commander in the service of the East India company.

granted, but to the king, or some bishop in person; that the scholars every Childermas-day should go to St. Paul's church, and hear the child-bishop sermon, and afterwards at high mass each of them offer a penny to the child-bishop; and committed the care of the school to the company of Mercers; the stipends to the masters, the officers' salaries, &c. belonging to the school, amounting at first to 118*l.* 14*s.* 7*d.* 1*ob.* *per annum*: but the rents and revenues of the school being of late years considerably advanced, the salaries of the masters have been more than doubled, and many exhibitions granted to those who go to the university, of ten pounds, and six pounds odd money *per annum*. The second master hath a handsome house near the school, as well as the first master.

The school at Mercers-chapel, in Cheap-side, hath the same patrons and governors as that of St. Paul's, viz. the Mercers, who allow the master a salary of 40*l.* *per annum*, and a house, for teaching twenty-five scholars *gratis*.

Merchant Taylors school is situated near Cannon-street, on St. Lawrence Pountney, or Pountney-hill. This school, I am told, consists of six forms, in which are three hundred lads, one hundred of whom are taught *gratis*, another hundred pay two shillings and six-pence *per* quarter, and the third hundred five shillings a quarter; for instructing of whom there is a master and three ushers: and out of these scholars some are annually, on St. Barnabas-day, the eleventh of June, elected to St. John's college in Oxford, where there are forty-six fellowships belonging to the school.

As to the charity-schools; there are in all 131, some for boys, others for girls; where the children are taught, if boys, to read, write, and accompt; if girls, to read, sew, and knit; who are all cloathed and fitted for service or trades *gratis*.

I proceed in the next place to shew how well London is supplied with water, firing, bread-corn, flesh, fish, beer, wine, and other provisions.

And as to water, no city was ever better furnished with it, for every man has a pipe or fountain of good fresh water brought into his house, for less than twenty shillings a year, unless brewhouses, and some other great houses and places that require more water than an ordinary family consumes, and these pay in proportion to the quantity they spend; many houses have several pipes laid in, and may have one in every room, if they think fit, which is a much greater convenience than two or three fountains in a street, for which some towns in other countries are so much admired.

These pipes of water are chiefly supplied from the water-works at London-bridge, Westminster, Chelsea, and the New-river.

Besides the water brought from the Thames and the New-river, there are a great many good springs, pumps, and conduits about the town, which afford excellent water for drinking. There are also mineral waters on the side of Islington and Pancras.

This capital also is well supplied with firing, particularly coals from Newcastle, and pit-coals from Scotland, and other parts; but wood is excessive dear, and used by no body for firing, unless bakers, and some few persons of quality in their chambers and drawing-rooms.

As for bread-corn, it is for the most part brought to London after it is converted into flour, and both bread and flour are extremely reasonable: we here buy as much good white bread for three-halfpence or two-pence, as will serve an Englishman a whole day, and flour in proportion. Good strong beer also may be had of the brewer, for about two pence a quart, and of the alehouses that retail it for three-pence a quart. Bear-key, below bridge, is a great market for malt, wheat, and horse-corn; and Queen-hithe, above the bridge, for malt, wheat, flower, and other grain.

The butchers here compute, that there are about one thousand oxen sold in Smith-field-market one week with another the year round; besides many thousand sheep, hogs,

hogs, calves, pigs, and lambs, in this and other parts of the town; and a great variety of venison, game, and poultry. Fruit, roots, herbs, and other garden-stuff, are very cheap and good.

Fish also are plentiful, such as fresh cod, plaice, flounders, soles, whittings, smelts, sturgeon, oysters, lobsters, crabs, shrimps, mackerel, and herrings in the season: but it must be confessed, that salmon, turbot, and some other sea-fish are dear, as well as fresh-water fish.

Wine is imported from foreign countries, and is dear. The Port wine which is usually drank, and is the cheapest, is two shillings a quart, retailed in taverns, and not much less than eighteen or twenty pounds the hoghead, when purchased at the best hand: and as to French wine, the duties are so high upon them, that they are at double the price of the other at least. White wine is about the same price as red-port, and canary about a third dearer.

It is computed that there are in London some part of the year, when the nobility and gentry are in town, 15 or 16,000 large horses for draught, used in coaches, carts, or drays, besides some thousands of saddle-horses; and yet is the town so well supplied with hay, straw, and corn, that there is seldom any want of them. Hay generally is not more than forty shillings the load, and from twenty pence to two shillings the bushel, is the usual price of oats.

The opportunity of passing from one part of the town to the other, by coach, chair, or boat, is a very great convenience, especially in the winter, or in very hot weather. A servant calls a coach or a chair in any of the principal streets, which attend at a minute's warning, and carries one to any part of the town, within a mile and a half distance, for a shilling, but to a chair is paid one third more; the coaches also will wait for eighteen-pence the first hour, and a shilling every succeeding hour all day long; or you may hire a coach and a pair of horses, all day, in or out of town, for ten shillings *per* day; there are coaches also that go to every village almost about town, within four or five miles, in which a passenger pays but one shilling, and in some but sixpence for his passage with other company.

The pleasantest way of moving from one end of the town to the other in summer time, is by water, on that spacious gentle stream the Thames, on which you travel two miles for six-pence, if you have two watermen, and for three-pence if you have but one: and to any village up or down the river, you go with company for a trifle. But the greatest advantage reaped from this noble river is, that it brings whatever this or other countries afford. Down the river from Oxfordshire, Berkshire, Bucks, &c. comes corn and all manner of provision of English growth, as has been observed already; and up the river, every thing that the coasts and the maritime counties of England, Scotland, or Ireland afford: this way also are received the treasures and merchandize of the East and West Indies, and indeed of the four quarters of the world.

Carts are hired as coaches, to remove goods and merchandize from one part of the town to the other, whose rates are also fixed, and are very reasonable; and for small burthens or parcels, and to send on messages, there are porters at every corner of the streets, those within the city of London and liberties thereof being licensed by authority, and wearing a badge or ticket; in whose hands goods of any value, and even bills of exchange or sums of money may be safely trusted, they being obliged at their admission to give security. There is also a post that goes from one part of the town to the other several times a day; and once a day to the neighbouring villages, with letters and small parcels; for the carriage of which is given no more than a penny the letter or parcel. And I should have remembered that every coach, chair, and boat that plies for

hire, has its number upon it; and if the number be taken by any friend or servant, at the place you set out from, the proprietor of the vehicle will be obliged to make good any loss or damage that may happen to the person carried in it, through the default of the people that carry him, and to make him satisfaction for any abuse or ill-language he may receive from them.

The high streets from one end of the town to the other, are kept clean by scavengers in the winter, and in summer the dust in some wide streets is laid by water-carts; they are so wide and spacious, that several lines of coaches and carts may pass by each other without interruption. Foot passengers in the high streets go about their business with abundance of ease and pleasure; they walk upon a fine smooth pavement, defended by posts from the coaches and wheel carriages; and though they are jostled sometimes in the throng, yet as this seldom happens out of design, few are offended at it; the variety of beautiful objects, animate and inanimate, he meets with in the streets and shops, inspires the passenger with joy, and makes him slight the trifling inconvenience of being crowded now and then. The light also in the shops till eight or nine in the evening, especially in those of toymen and pastry-cooks in the winter, make the night appear even brighter and more agreeable than the day itself.

From the lights I come very naturally to speak of the night-guards or watch. Each watch consists of a constable and a certain number of watchmen, who have a guard-room or watch-house in some certain place, from whence watchmen are dispatched every hour, to patrol in the streets and places in each constable's district; to see if all be safe from fire and thieves: and as they pass, they give the hour of the night, and with their staves strike at the door of every house.

If they meet with any persons they suspect of ill designs, quarrelsome people, or lewd women in the streets, they are empowered to carry them before the constable at his watch-house, who confines them till morning, when they are brought before a justice of the peace, who commits them to prison or releases them, according as the circumstances of the case are.

Mobs and tumults were formerly very terrible in this great city; not only private men have been insulted and abused, and their houses demolished, but even the court and parliament have been influenced or awed by them. But there is now seldom seen a multitude of people assembled, unless it be to attend some malefactor to his execution, or to pelt a villain in the pillory, the last of which being an outrage that the government has ever seemed to wink at; and it is observed by some, that the mob are pretty just upon these occasions; they seldom falling upon any but notorious rascals, such as are guilty of perjury, forgery, sodomitical practices, or keeping of bawdy-houses, and these with rotten eggs, apples, and turnips, they frequently maul unmercifully, unless the offender has money enough to bribe the constables and officers to protect him.

The London inns, though they are as commodious for the most part as those we meet with in other places, yet few people chuse to take up their quarters in them for any long time; for, if their business requires them to make any stay in London, they chuse to leave their horses at the inn or some livery-stable, and take lodgings in a private house. At livery-stables they lodge no travellers, only take care of their horses, which fare better here than usually at inns; and at these places it is that gentlemen hire saddle horses for a journey. At the best of them are found very good horses and furniture: they will let out a good horse for 4s. a day, and an ordinary hackney for 2s. 6d. and for 5s. you may have a hunter for the city hounds, have the liberty of hunting in Enfield chace and round the town, and go out constantly every week in the season, followed by a great many young gentlemen and tradesmen. They have an opportunity also of hunting with

the king's hounds at Richmond and Windsor: and such exercises seem very necessary for people who are constantly in London, and eat and drink as plentifully as any people in the world. And now I am speaking of hired horses, I cannot avoid taking notice of the vast number of coach-horses that are kept to be let out to noblemen or gentlemen, to carry or bring them to and from the distant parts of the kingdom, or to supply the undertakers of funerals with horses for their coaches and hearses. There are some of these men that keep several hundreds of horses, with coaches, coachmen, and a complete equipage, that will be ready at a day's warning to attend a gentleman to any part of England. These people also are great jockeys. They go to all the fairs in the country and buy up horses, with which they furnish most of the nobility and gentry about town. And if a nobleman does not care to run any hazard, or have the trouble of keeping horses in town, they will agree to furnish him with a set all the year round.

The principal taverns are large handsome edifices, made as commodious for the entertaining a variety of company as can be contrived, with some spacious rooms for the accommodation of numerous assemblies. Here a stranger may be furnished with wines, and excellent food of all kinds, dressed after the best manner: each company and every particular man, if he pleases, has a room to himself, and a good fire if it be winter time, for which he pays nothing, and is not to be disturbed or turned out of his room by any other man of what quality soever, till he thinks fit to leave it. And as many people meet here upon business, at least an equal number resort hither purely for pleasure, or to refresh themselves in an evening after a day's fatigue. Those of any reputation will not admit lewd women within their doors, but too many of them live on the vices of the people, serving as rendezvous for the profligate part of the world, to whom in false measures they put off their sophisticated wines.

And though the taverns are very numerous, yet ale-houses are much more so, being visited by the inferior tradesmen, mechanicks, journeymen, porters, coachmen, carmen, servants, and others whose pockets will not reach a glass of wine. Here they sit promiscuously in common dirty rooms, with large fires, and clouds of tobacco, where one that is not used to them can scarce breathe or see: but as they are a busy sort of people, they seldom stay long, returning to their several employments, and are succeeded by fresh sets of the same rank of men, at their leisure hours, all day long.

Of eating-houses and cook-shops there are not many, considering the largeness of the town; unless it be about the inns of court and Chancery, Smithfield, and the Royal Exchange; and some other places, to which the country people and strangers resort when they come to town. Here is good butchers meat of all kinds, and in the best of them fowls, pigs, geese, &c. the last of which are pretty dear, but one that can make a meal of butchers meat, may have as much as he cares to eat for six-pence; he must be content indeed to sit in a publick room, and use the same linen that forty people have done before him. Besides meat, he finds very good white bread, table-beer, &c.

Coffee-houses are almost as numerous as ale-houses, dispersed in every part of the town, where they sell tea, coffee, chocolate, drams, and in many of the great ones arrack and other punch, wine, &c. These consist chiefly of one large common room, with good fires in winter; and hither the middle sort of people chiefly resort, many to breakfast, read the news, and talk politicks; after which they retire home: others who are strangers in town meet here about noon, and appoint some tavern to dine at; and a great many attend at the coffee-houses near the Exchange, the inns of court and Westminster, about their business. In the afternoon about four, people resort to these places again, from whence they adjourn to the tavern, the play, &c. and some, when they

have taken a handsome dose, run to the coffee-house at midnight for a dish of coffee to set them right; while others conclude the day here with drams, or a bowl of punch.

There are but few cyder-houses about London, though this be liquor of English growth; because it is generally thought too cold for the climate, and to elevate the spirits less than wine or strong beer.

The four grand distinctions of the people are these, 1. The nobility and gentry. 2. The merchants and first rate tradesmen. 3. The lawyers and physicians: and 4. Inferior tradesmen, attornies, clerks, apprentices, coachmen, carmen, chairmen, watermen, porters, and servants.

The first class may not only be divided into nobility and gentry, but into either such as have dependence on the court, or such as have none. Those who have offices, places, or pensions from the court, or any expectations from thence, constantly attend the levees of the prince and his ministers, which takes up the greatest part of the little morning they have. At noon most of the nobility, and such gentlemen as are members of the house of commons, go down to Westminster, and when the houses do not sit late, return home to dinner. Others that are not members of either house, and have no particular business to attend, are found in the chocolate-houses near the court, or in the park, and many more do not stir from their houses till after dinner. As to the ladies, who seldom rise till about noon, the first part of their time is spent, after the duties of the closet, either at the tea-table or in dressing, unless they take a turn to Covent-garden or Ludgate-hill, and tumble over the mercers rich silks, or view some India or China trifle, some prohibited manufacture, or foreign lace.

Thus the business of the day being dispatched before dinner, both by the ladies and gentlemen, the evening is devoted to pleasure; all the world get abroad in their gayest equipage between four and five in the evening, some bound to the play, others to the opera, the assembly, the masquerade, or musick-meeting, to which they move in such crowds, that their coaches can scarce pass the streets.

The merchants and tradesmen of the first rate make no mean figure in London; they have many of them houses equal to those of the nobility, with great gates and court-yards before them, and seats in the country, whither they retire the latter end of the week, returning to the city again on Mondays or Tuesdays; they keep their coaches, saddle-horses, and footmen; their houses are richly and beautifully furnished; and though their equipage be not altogether so shining, and their servants so numerous as those of the nobility, they generally abound in wealth and plenty; and are generally masters of a larger cash than they have occasion to make use of in the way of trade, whereby they are always provided against accidents, and are enabled to make an advantageous purchase when it offers. And in this they differ from the merchants of other countries, that they know when they have enough; for they retire to their estates, and enjoy the fruits of their labours in the decline of life, reserving only business enough to divert their leisure hours. They become gentlemen and magistrates in the countries where their estates lie; and as they are frequently the younger brothers of good families, it is not uncommon to see them purchase those estates that the eldest branches of their respective families have been obliged to part with.

Their character is, that they are neither so much in haste as the French to grow rich, nor so niggardly as the Dutch to save: that their houses are richly furnished, and their tables well served. You are neitherfoothed nor fowered by the merchants of London; they seldom ask too much, and foreigners buy of them as cheap as others. They are punctual in their payments, genorous and charitable, very obliging, and not too ceremonious,

nious, easy of access, ready to communicate their knowledge of the respective countries they traffick with, and the condition of their trade.

As to their way of life, they usually rise some hours before the gentlemen at the other end of the town, and having paid their devotions to heaven, seldom fail, in a morning, of surveying the condition of their accounts, and giving their orders to their book-keepers and agents, for the management of their respective trades; after which, being dressed in a modest garb, without any footmen or attendants, they go about their business to the Custom-house, Bank, Exchange, &c. and after dinner, sometimes apply themselves to business again; but the morning is much the busiest part of the day. In the evening of every other day the post comes in, when the perusing their letters may employ part of their time, as the answering them does on other days of the week; and they frequently meet at the tavern in the evening, either to transact their affairs, or to take a chearful glass after the business of the day is over.

As to the wives and daughters of the merchants and principal tradesmen, they endeavour to imitate the court-ladies in their dress, and follow much the same diversions; and it is not uncommon to see a nobleman match with a citizen's daughter, by which she gains a title, and he discharges the incumbrances on his estate with her fortune. Merchants sons are sometimes initiated into the same business their fathers follow; but if they find an estate gotten to their hands, many of them chuse rather to become country-gentlemen.

As to the lawyers or barristers, these also are frequently the younger sons of good families; and the elder brother too is sometimes entered of the inns of court, that he may know enough of the law to keep his estate.

A lawyer of parts and good elocution seldom fails of rising to preferment, and acquiring an estate even while he is a young man. I do not know any profession in London where a person makes his fortune so soon as in the law, if he be an eminent pleader. Several of them have of late years been advanced to the peerage; as Finch, Somers, Cowper, Harcourt, Trevor, Parker, Lechmere, King, Raymond, &c. scarce any of them much exceeding forty years of age when they arrived at that honour.

The fees are so great, and their business so ingrosses every minute of their time, that it is impossible their expences should equal their income; but it must be confessed they labour very hard, are forced to be up early and late, and to try their constitutions to the utmost (I mean those in full business) in the service of their clients. They rise in winter long before it is light, to read over their briefs; dress, and prepare themselves for the business of the day; at eight or nine they go to Westminster, where they attend and plead either in the courts of equity or common law, ordinarily till one or two, and (upon a great trial) sometimes till the evening. By that time they have got home, and dined, they have other briefs to peruse, and they are to attend the hearings, either at the Lord Chancellor's, or the Rolls, till eight or nine in the evening; after which, when they return to their chambers, they are attended by their clients, and have their several cases and briefs to read over and consider that evening, or the next morning before day-light; insomuch that they have scarce time for their meals, or their natural rest, particularly at the latter end of a term. They are not always in this hurry, indeed; if they were, the best constitution must soon be worn out; nor would any one submit to such hardships, who had a subsistence, but with a prospect of acquiring a great estate suddenly; for the gold comes tumbling into the pockets of these great lawyers, which makes them refuse no cause, how intricate or doubtful soever. And this brings me to consider the high fees that are usually taken by an eminent counsel; as for a single opinion upon a case,
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two, three, four, and five guineas; upon a hearing, five or ten, and perhaps a great many more; and if the cause does not come on till the next day, they are all to be feed again, though there are not less than six or seven counsel of a side.

The next considerable profession therefore I shall mention in London, is that of the physicians, who are not so numerous as the former; but those who are eminent amongst them acquire estates equal to the lawyers, though they seldom arrive at the like honours. It is a useful observation, indeed, as to English physicians, that they seldom get their bread till they have no teeth to eat it: though, when they have acquired a reputation, they are as much followed as the great lawyers; they take care, however, not to be so much fatigued. You find them at Batson's or Child's coffee-house usually in the morning, and they visit their patients in the afternoon. Those that are men of figure amongst them, will not rise out of their beds, or break their rest, on every call. The greatest fatigue they undergo, is the going up 40 or 50 pair of stairs every day; for the patient is generally laid pretty near the garret, that he may not be disturbed.

These physicians are allowed to be men of skill in their profession, and well versed in other parts of learning. The great grievance here (as in the law) is, that the inferior people are undone by the exorbitance of their fees; and what is still a greater hardship is, that if a physician has been employed, he must be continued, however unable the patient is to bear the expence, as no apothecary may administer any thing to the sick man, if he has been prescribed to first by a physician: so that the patient is reduced to this dilemma, either to die of the disease, or starve his family, if his sickness happens to be of any duration. A physician here scorns to touch any other metal but gold, and the surgeons are still more unreasonable; and this may be one reason why the people of this city have so often recourse to quacks, for they are cheap, and easily come at, and the mob are not judges of their ability; they pretend to great things; they have cured princes, and persons of the first quality, as they pretend; and it must be confessed their patients are as credulous as they can desire, taken with grand pretences, and the assurance of the impostor, and frequently like things the better that are offered them out of the common road.

I come in the next place to treat of attornies'-clerks, apprentices, inferior tradesmen, coachmen, porters, servants, and the lowest class of men in this town, which are far the most numerous: and first of the lawyers'-clerks and apprentices, I find it a general complaint, that they are under no manner of government; before their times are half out, they set up for gentlemen; they dress, they drink, they game, frequent the play-houses, and intrigue with the women; and it is no uncommon thing with clerks to bully their masters and desert their service for whole days and nights whenever they see fit.

As to the ordinary tradesmen, they live by buying and selling; I cannot say they are so eminent for their probity as the merchants and tradesmen of the first rate; they seem to have a wrong bias given them in their education, many of them have no principles of honour, no other rule to go by than the fishmonger, namely, to get what they can, who consider only the weakness or ignorance of the customer, and make their demands accordingly, taking sometimes half the price they ask. And I must not forget the numbers of poor creatures, who live and maintain their families, by buying provisions in one part of the town, and retailing them in another, whose stock perhaps does not amount to more than forty or fifty shillings, and part of this they take up (many of them) on their cloaths at a pawn-broker's, on a Monday morning, which they make shift to redeem on a Saturday night, that they may appear in a proper habit at their parish-churches on a Sunday. These are the people that cry fish, fruit, herbs, roots, news, &c. about town.

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As to hackney-coachmen, carmen, porters, chairmen, and watermen, though they work hard, they generally eat and drink well, and are decently cloathed on holidays; for the wife, if she be industrious, either by her needle, washing, or other business proper to her sex, makes no small addition to their gains, and by their united labours they maintain their families handsomely if they have their healths.

As to the common menial servants, they have great wages, are well kept and cloathed, but are notwithstanding the plague of almost every house in town; they form themselves into societies or rather confederacies, contributing to the maintenance of each other, when out of place, and if any of them cannot manage the family where they are entertained as they please, immediately they give notice they will be gone; there is no speaking to them; they are above correction, and if a master should attempt it, he may expect to be handsomely drubbed by the creature he feeds and harbours, or perhaps an action brought against him for it. It is become a common saying, "If my servant ben't a thief, if he be but honest, I can bear with other things:" and indeed it is very rare in London to meet with an honest servant.

When I was treating of tradesmen I had forgot to mention those nuisances of the town, the itinerant pedlars who deal in toys and hard-ware, and those who pretend to sell foreign silks, linen, India handkerchiefs, and other prohibited and unaccustomed goods; these we meet with at every coffee-house and corner of the streets, and they visit also every private house; the women have such a gust for every thing that is foreign or prohibited, that these vermin meet with a good reception every where. The ladies will rather buy home manufactures of these people than of a neighbouring shop-keeper, under the pretence of buying cheaper, though they frequently buy damaged goods, and pay a great deal dearer for them than they would do in a tradesman's shop; which is a great discouragement to the fair dealer that maintains a family, and is forced to give a large credit, while these people run away with the ready money; and I am informed that some needy tradesmen employ fellows to run hawking about the streets with their goods, and sell penny-worths, in order to furnish themselves with a little money.

As to the recreations of the citizens, many of them are entertained in the same manner as the quality are, resorting to the play, park, musick-meetings, &c. and in the summer they visit Richmond, Hampstead, Epsom, and other neighbouring towns, where horse-racing, and all manner of rural sports as well as other diversions are followed in the summer season.

Towards autumn, when the town is thin, many of the citizens who deal in a wholesale way, visit the distant parts of the kingdom to get in their debts, or procure orders for fresh parcels of goods; and much about the same time the lawyers are either employed in the several circuits, or retired to their country-seats: so that the court, the nobility and gentry, the lawyers, and many of the citizens being gone into the country, the town resumes another face. The west end of it appears perfectly deserted; in other parts their trade falls off; but still in the streets about the Royal Exchange we seldom fail to meet with crowds of people, and an air of business in the hottest season.

I have heard it affirmed, however, that many citizens live beyond their income, which puts them upon tricking and prevaricating in their dealings, and is the principal occasion of those frequent bankruptcies seen in the papers: ordinary tradesmen drink as much wine, and eat as well, as gentlemen of estates; their cloth, their lace, their linen are as fine, and they change it as often; and they frequently imitate the quality in their expensive pleasures.

As to the diversions of the inferior tradesmen and common people, on Sundays and other holidays, they frequently get out of town; the neighbouring villages are full of them, and the publick-houses there usually provide a dinner in expectation of their city-guests: but if they do not visit them in a morning, they seldom fail of walking out in the fields in the afternoon; every walk, every publick garden and path near the town are crowded with the common people, and no place more than the park; for which reason I presume the quality are seldom seen there on a Sunday, though the meanest of them are so well dressed at these times that nobody need be ashamed of their company on that account; for you will see every apprentice, every porter, and cobbler, in as good cloth and linen as their betters; and it must be a very poor woman that has not a suit of mantua-silk, or something equal to it, to appear abroad in on holy-days.

And now if we survey these several inhabitants in one body, it will be found that there are about a million of souls in the whole town, of whom there may be 150,000 men, and upwards, capable of bearing arms, that is, between eighteen and sixty.

If it be demanded what proportion that part of the town properly called the City of London, bears to the rest? I answer, that according to the last calculations, there are in the city 12,000 houses; in the parishes without the walls 36,320; in the parishes of Middlesex and Surrey, which make part of the town, 46,300; and in the city and liberties of Westminster, 28,330; in which are included the precincts of the Tower, Norton-Folgate, the Rolls, White-friars, the inns of court and Chancery, the king's palaces, and all other extra-parochial places.

As to the number of inhabitants in each of these four grand divisions, if we multiply the number of houses in the city of London by eight and a half, there must be 102,000 people there, according to this estimate; by the same rule there must be 308,720 people in the seventeen parishes without the walls, 393,550 in the twenty-one out-parishes of Middlesex and Surrey, and 240,805 in the city and liberties of Westminster, all which compose the sum total of 1,045,075 people.

Let me now proceed to inquire into the state of the several great trading companies in London. The first, in point of time, I find to be the Hamburgh company, originally stiled "merchants of the staple," (that is, of the staple of wool) and afterwards merchant-adventurers. They were first incorporated in the reign of King Edward I. *anno* 1296, and obtained leave of John duke of Brabant, to make Antwerp their staple or mart for the Low Countries; where the woollen-manufactures then flourished more than in any county in Europe. The business of this company at first seems to be chiefly, if not altogether, the vending of English wool unwrought.

Queen Elizabeth enlarged the trade of the company of adventurers, and impowered them to treat with the princes and states of Germany for a place which might be the staple or mart for the woollen manufactures they exported, which was at length fixed at Hamburgh, from whence they obtained the name of the Hamburgh company: they had another mart or staple also assigned them for the sale of their woollen cloths in the Low-Countries, viz. Dort, in Holland.

This company consists of a governor, deputy-governor, and fellowship, or court of assistants, elected annually in June, who have a power of making bye-laws for the regulation of their trade; but this trade in a manner lies open, every merchant trading thither on his own bottom, on paying an inconsiderable sum to the company; so that though the trade to Germany may be of consequence, yet the Hamburgh company, as a company, have very little advantage by their being incorporated.

The Hamburgh or German merchants export from England, broad-cloth, druggets, long-ells, ferges, and several sorts of stuffs, tobacco, sugar, ginger, East-India goods,

tin, lead, and several other commodities, the great consumption of which is in Lower Germany.

England takes from them prodigious quantities of linen, linen-yarn, kid-skins, tin-plates, and a great many other commodities.

The next company established was that of the Russia-merchants, incorporated 1st and 2d of Philip and Mary, who were empowered to trade to all lands, ports, and places in the dominions of the emperor of Russia, and to all other lands not then discovered or frequented, lying on the north, north-east, or north-west.

The Russia-company, as a company, are not a very considerable body at present; the trade thither being carried on by private merchants, who are admitted into this trade on payment of five pounds for that privilege.

It consists of a governor, four consuls, and twenty-four assistants, annually chosen on the first of March.

The Russia merchants export from England some coarse cloth, long-ells, worsted-stuffs, tin, lead, tobacco, and a few other commodities.

England takes from Russia, hemp, flax, linen-cloth, linen-yarn, Russia-leather, tallow, furs, iron, pot-ashes, &c. to an immense value.

The next company is the Eastland company, formerly called Merchants of Elbing, a town in Polish Prussia, to the eastward of Dantzick, being the port they principally resorted to in the infancy of their trade. They were incorporated 21 Elizabeth, and empowered to trade to all countries within the Sound, Norway, Sweden, Poland, Lief-land, Prussia, and Pomerania, from the river Oder eastward, viz. with Riga, Revel, Koningburgh, Elbing, Dantzick, Copenhagen, Elsinore, Finland, Gothland, East-land, and Bornholm (except Narva, which was then the only Russian port in the Baltick.) And by the said patent, the Eastland-company and Hamburgh-company were each of them authorised to trade separately to Mecklenburgh, Gotland, Silesia, Moravia, Lu-beck, Wismar, Rostock, and the whole river Oder.

This company consists of a governor, deputy-governor, and twenty-four assistants, elected annually in October; but either they have no power to exclude others from trading within their limits, or the fine for permission is so inconsiderable, that it can never hinder any merchant's trading thither who is inclined to it; and in fact, this trade, like the former, is carried on by private merchants, and the trade to Norway and Sweden is laid open by act of parliament.

To Norway and Denmark merchants send guineas, crown-pieces, bullion, a little tobacco, and a few coarse woollens.

They import from Norway, &c. vast quantities of deal boards, timber, spars, and iron.

Sweden takes from England gold and silver, and but a small quantity of the man-ufactures and production of England.

England imports from Sweden near two-thirds of the iron wrought up or consumed in the kingdom, copper, boards, plank, &c.

The Turkey or Levant company was first incorporated in the reign of Queen Eliza-beth, and their privileges were confirmed and enlarged in the reign of King James I. being empowered to trade to the Levant, or eastern part of the Mediterranean, parti-cularly to Smyrna, Aleppo, Constantinople, Cyprus, Grand Cairo, Alexandria, &c.

It consists of a governor, deputy-governor, and eighteen assistants or directors, chosen annually, &c. This trade is open also to every merchant, paying a small con-sideration, and carried on accordingly by private men.



These merchants export to Turkey chiefly broad cloth, long-ells, tin, lead, and some iron; and the English merchants frequently buy up French and Lisbon sugars and transport thither, as well as bullion from Cadiz.

The commodities received from thence are chiefly raw silk, grogram yarn, dying stuffs of sundry kinds, drugs, soap, leather, cotton, and some fruit, oil, &c.

The East-India company were incorporated about the 42d of Elizabeth, *anno* 1600, and empowered to trade to all countries to the eastward of the Cape of Good Hope, exclusive of all others.

About the middle of King William's reign it was generally said their patent was illegal, and that the crown could not restrain the English merchants from trading to any country they were disposed to deal with; and application being made to parliament for leave to lay the trade open, the ministry took the hint, and procured an act of parliament (9 and 10 William III. *cap.* 44.) empowering every subject of England to trade to India, who should raise a sum of money for the supply of the government, in proportion to the sum he should advance; and each subscriber was to have an annuity after the rate of 8 *per cent. per ann.* to commence from Michaelmas 1698; and his majesty was empowered to incorporate the subscribers, as he afterwards did, and they were usually called the New East-India Company, the old company being allowed a certain time to withdraw their effects. But the old company being masters of all the towns and forts belonging to the English on the coast of India, and their members having subscribed such considerable sums towards the two millions intended to be raised, that they could not be excluded from the trade, the new company found it necessary to unite with the old company, and to trade with one joint-stock, and have ever since been stiled, "The United Company of Merchants trading to the East-Indies."

The company have a governor, deputy-governor, and twenty-four assistants or directors, elected annually in April.

The East-India company export great quantities of bullion, lead, English cloth, and some other goods, the product or manufacture of that kingdom; and import from China and India, tea, china-ware, cabinets, raw and wrought silks, coffee, muslins, calicoes, and other goods.

Bengal raw silk is bought at very low prices there, and is very useful in carrying on the manufactures of this kingdom.

China silk is of excellent staple, and comes at little above one-third of the price of Italian Piedmont silk.

The China silk is purchased at Canton; but their fine silk is made in the provinces of Nankin and Chekiam, where their fine manufactures are carried on, and where prodigious quantities of raw silk are made, and the best in all China.

The Royal African company was incorporated 14 Car. II. and empowered to trade from Sallee in South Barbary, to the Cape of Good Hope, being all the western coast of Africa. It carries no money out, and not only supplies the English plantations with servants, but brings in a great deal of bullion for those that are sold to the Spanish West-Indies, besides gold-dust and other commodities, as red-wood, elephant's teeth, Guinea grain, &c. some of which are re-exported. The supplying the plantations with negroes is of that extraordinary advantage, that the planting sugar and tobacco, and carrying on trade there, could not be supported without them; which plantations are the great causes of the increase of the riches of the kingdom.

The Canary company was incorporated in the reign of King Charles II. *anno* 1664, being empowered to trade to the Seven Islands, anciently called the Fortunate, and now the Canary Islands.

They have a governor, deputy-governor, and thirteen assistants or directors, chosen annually in March. This company exports baize, kerseys, serges, Norwich stuffs, and other woollen manufactures; stockings, hats, fustians, haberdashery-wares, tin, and hard-ware; as also herrings, pilchards, salted flesh, and grain; linens, pipe-staves, hoops, &c. Importing, in return, Canary wines, logwood, hides, indigo, cochineal, and other commodities, the produce of America and the West Indies.

There is another company I had almost overlooked, called the Hudson's Bay company; and though these merchants make but little noise, I find it is a very advantageous trade. They by charter trade, exclusively of all other his Britannick majesty's subjects, to the north-west; which was granted, as I have been told, on account that they should attempt a passage by those seas to China, &c. though nothing appears now to be less their regard; nay, if all be true, they are the very people that discourage and impede all attempts made by others for the opening that passage to the South Seas. They export some woollen goods and haberdashery-wares, knives, hatchets, arms, and other hard-ware; and in return bring back chiefly beaver-skins, and other skins and furs.

The last, and once the most considerable of all the trading companies, is that of the South Sea, established by act of parliament in the ninth year of the late Queen Anne: but, what by reason of the mismanagement of its directors in 1720, the miscarriage of their whale-fishery, and the intrigues of the Spaniards, their credit is sunk, and their trade has much decreased.

I proceed, in the next place, to inquire what countries the merchants of London trade to separately, not being incorporated or subject to the controul of any company.

Among which is the trade to Italy, whither are exported broad cloth, long-ells, baize, druggets, callimancoes, camblets, and divers other stuffs; leather, tin, lead, great quantities of fish, as pilchards, herrings, salmon, Newfoundland cod, &c. pepper, and other East-India goods.

The commodities England takes from them, are raw, thrown and wrought silk, wine, oil, soap, olives, some dyer's wares, anchovies, &c.

To Spain the merchants export broad cloth, druggets, callimancoes, baize, stuff of divers kinds, leather, fish, tin, lead, corn, &c.

The commodities England takes from them, are wine, oil, fruit of divers kinds, wool, indigo, cochineal, and dying stuffs.

To Portugal also are exported broad cloth, druggets, baize, long-ells, callimancoes, and all other sorts of stuffs; as well as tin, lead, leather, fish, corn, and other English commodities.

England takes from them great quantities of wine, oil, salt, and fruit, and gold, both in bullion and specie; though it is forfeited, if seized in the ports of Portugal.

The French take very little from England in a fair way, dealing chiefly with owlers, or those that clandestinely export wool and fuller's earth, &c. They indeed buy some of our tobacco, sugar, tin, lead, coals, a few stuffs, serges, flannels, and a small matter of broad cloth. But

England takes from France wine, brandy, linen, lace, fine cambricks, and cambrick lawns, to a prodigious value; brocades, velvets, and many other rich silk manufactures, which are either run, or come by way of Holland; the humour of some of the nobility and gentry being such, that although they have those manufactures made as good at home, if not better than abroad, yet they are forced to be called by the name of French to make them sell. Their linens are run in very great quantities, as are their wine and brandy, from the Land's-end even to the Downs.

To Flanders are exported serges, a few flannels, a very few stuffs, sugar, tobacco, tin, and lead.

England takes from them fine lace, fine cambricks, and cambrick-lawns, Flanders whited linens, threads, tapes, incles, and divers other commodities, to a very great value.

To Holland the merchants export broad cloth, druggets, long ells, stuffs of a great many sorts, leather, corn, coals, and something of almost every kind that this kingdom produces; besides all sorts of India and Turkey re-exported goods, sugars, tobacco, rice, ginger, pitch and tar, and fundry other commodities of the produce of our American plantations.

England takes from Holland great quantities of fine Holland linen, threads, tapes, and incles; whale fins, brass battery, madder, argol, with a large number of other commodities and toys; clapboard, wainscot, &c.

To Ireland are exported fine broad cloth, rich silks, ribbons, gold and silver lace, manufactured iron and cutlery wares, pewter, great quantities of hops, coals, dying wares, tobacco, sugar, East India goods, raw silk, hollands, and almost every thing they use, but linens, coarse woollens, and eatables.

England takes from Ireland woollen yarn, linen yarn, great quantities of wool in the fleece, and some tallow.

They have an extraordinary trade for their hides, tallow, beef, butter, &c. to Holland, Flanders, France, Portugal, and Spain, which enables them to make large remittances.

To the Sugar Plantations are exported all sorts of cloathing, both linen, silks and woollen; wrought iron, brass, copper, all sorts of household-furniture, and a great part of their food.

They return sugar, ginger, and several commodities, and all the bullion and gold they can meet with, but rarely carry out any.

To the tobacco-plantations are exported cloathing, household-goods, iron-manufactures of all sorts, saddles, bridles, brass and copper wares; and notwithstanding they dwell among the woods, they take their very turnery wares, and almost every thing else that may be called the manufacture of England.

England takes from them not only what tobacco is consumed at home, but very great quantities for re-exportation.

To Carolina are exported the same commodities as to the tobacco-plantations. This country lying between the 32d and 36th degrees of northern latitude, the soil is generally fertile. The rice it produces is said to be the best in the world; and no country affords better silk than has been brought from thence, though for want of sufficient encouragement the quantity imported is very small. It is said both bohea and green tea have been raised there, extraordinary good of the kind. The olive-tree grows wild, and thrives very well, and might soon be improved so far as to supply us with large quantities of oil. It is said the fly, from whence the cochineal is made, is found very common, and if care was taken very great quantities might be made. The indigo plant grows exceedingly well. The country has plenty of iron mines in it, and would produce excellent hemp and flax, if encouragement was given for raising it.

To Pennsylvania are exported broad cloth, kerseys, druggets, serges, and manufactures of all kinds.

To New-England are exported all sorts of woollen-manufacturers, linen, sail-cloth, and cordage for rigging their ships, haberdashery, &c. They carry lumber and provisions to the sugar plantations; and exchange provisions for logwood with the logwood-cutters at Campeachy. They send pipe and barrel-staves and fish to Spain, Portugal, and the Streights. They send pitch, tar, and turpentine to England, with some skins.

Having considered the trading companies, and other branches of foreign trade, I shall now inquire into the establishment of the Bank of England.

The governor and company of the Bank of England, &c. are enjoined not to trade, or suffer any person in trust for them, to trade with any of the stock, monies or effects, in the buying or selling of any merchandize or goods whatsoever, on pain of forfeiting the treble value. Yet they may deal in bills of exchange, and in buying and selling of bullion, gold or silver, or in selling goods mortgaged to them, and not redeemed at the time agreed on, or within three months after, or such goods as should be the produce of lands purchased by the corporation. All bills obligatory and of credit under the seal of the corporation made to any person, may by indorsement be assigned, and such assignment shall transfer the property to the monies due upon the same, and the assignee may sue in his own name.

There is at present due to this Bank from the government on the original

fund at 6 <i>l.</i> per cent.	-	-	-	-	£1,600,000
For cancelling of Exchequer bills. 3 George I.	-	-	-	-	1,500,000
Purchased of the South Sea company	-	-	-	-	4,000,000
Annuities at 4 <i>l.</i> per cent. charged on the duty on coals since Lady Day,	-	-	-	-	
1719	-	-	-	-	1,750,000
Ditto, charged on the surplus of the funds for the lottery of 1714	-	-	-	-	1,250,000
Total due to the Bank of England*					10,100,000

Give me leave to observe here, that most of the foreign trade of this town is transacted by brokers, of which there are three sorts, viz. 1st, Exchange-Brokers, 2^{dly}, Brokers for goods and merchandize, and 3^{dly}, Ship-brokers.

The Exchange-Brokers who are versed in the course of Exchange, furnish the merchant with money or bills, as he has occasion for either.

The Broker of goods lets the merchant know where he may furnish himself with them, and the settled price; or if he wants to sell, where he may meet with a chapman for his effects.

The Ship-Broker finds ships for the merchant, when he wants to send his goods abroad; or goods for captains and masters of vessels to freight their ships with.

If it be demanded what share of foreign trade London hath with respect to the rest of the kingdom; it seems to have a fourth part of the whole, at least if we may judge by the produce of the customs, which are as three to twelve, or thereabouts.

As to the manufactures carried on in the city of London; here mechanicks have acquired a great deal of reputation in the world, and in many things not without reason; for they excel in clock and cabinet-work, in making saddles, and all sorts of tools, and other things. The door and gun locks, and fire-arms, are no where to be paralleled: The silk manufacture is equal to that of France, or any other country, and is prodigiously enlarged of late years. Dyers also are very numerous in and about London, and are not exceeded by any foreigners in the beauty or durableness of their colours: and those that print and stain cottons and linens have brought that art to great perfection. Printers of books, also, may equal those abroad; but the best paper is imported from other countries.

The manufacture of glass here is equal to that of Venice, or any other country in Europe, whether we regard the coach or looking-glasses, perspectives, drinking-glasses, or any other kind of glass whatever. The making of pins and needles is another great ma-

* Which has been much increased.

nufacture,

nufacture in this town, as is that of wire-drawing of silver, gold, and other metals. The Goldsmiths and Silversmiths excel in their way. The Pewterers and Brasiers furnish all manner of vessels and implements for the kitchen, which are as neatly and substantially made and furnished here, as in any country in Europe. The trades of Hat-making and Shoe-making employ multitudes of mechanicks; and the Taylors are equally numerous. The Cabinet, Screen, and Chair-makers contribute also considerably to the adorning and furnishing the dwelling-house. The common Smiths, Bricklayers, and Carpenters, are no inconsiderable branch of mechanicks; as may well be imagined in a town of this magnitude, where so many churches, palaces, and private buildings are continually repairing, and so many more daily erecting upon new foundations. And this brings me to mention the Shipwrights, who are employed in the east part of the town, on both sides the river Thames, in building ships, lighters, boats, and other vessels; and the Coopers, who make all the casks for domestick and foreign service. The Anchorsmiths, Ropemakers, and others employed in the rigging and fitting out ships, are very numerous; and brewing and distilling may be introduced among the manufactures of this town, where so many thousand quarters of malt are annually converted into beer and spirits: And as the various kinds of beer brewed here, are not to be paralleled in the world, either for quantity or quality; so the distilling of spirits is brought to such perfection that the best of them are not easily to be distinguished from French brandy.

Having already mentioned ship-building among the mechanick trades, give me leave to observe farther, that in this England excels all other nations; the men of war are the most beautiful as well as formidable machines, that ever floated on the ocean.

As to the number of foreigners in and about this great city, there cannot be given any certain account, only this you may depend upon, that there are more of the French nation than of any other: such numbers of them coming over about the time of the revolution, and since to avoid the persecution of Lewis XIV. and so many more to get their bread, either in the way of trade, or in the service of persons of quality; and I find they have upwards of twenty churches in this town, to each of which if we allow 1000 souls, then their number must be at least 20,000. Next to the French nation I account most of the Dutch and Germans; for there are but few Spaniards or Portuguese, and the latter are generally Jews; and except the raree-show men, we see scarce any of the natives of Italy here; though the Venetian and some other Italian princes have their publick chapels here for the exercise of the Romish religion.

CHAP. V.—*Of the Situation, Antiquity, &c. of Oxford.*

OXFORD is an ancient, beautiful and pleasant city, though not of very great extent. It stands upon the rivers Charwell and Isis: the two principal streets of it make the figure of a cross, and are each of them about a mile in length. It contains thirteen parishes, and is encompassed on every side with a rich and pleasant country, an elegant and surprising inclosure, full of a noble variety of meadows and pastures, hills, plains, fields, woods, villages, towns, and gentlemens seats, in a clear, open, and wholesome air. There goes a very dark tradition, that this city was first built by Mempric, king of the Britains, above a thousand years before the birth of Christ, and that he gave the place the name of Caer Mempric which afterwards it exchanged for that of Rydychen or Oxenford; for so Rydychen signifies in the Old British or Welch. It is also told that Arviragus, a British king, was the founder of this university; that he erected it within the first century after Christ, and that St. Germain, bishop of Auxerre, formed the polity and constitution of it towards the latter end of the fourth. From the
singular

singular agreeableness of its situation, it derived also the name of *Bellofitum*, as much as to say, the seat of rural satisfaction and delight. When the Saxons had reduced it to ruinous circumstances, king Vortigern is said to have restored it to a flourishing condition; which when it had lost again by the Danes, king Alfred reinstated, and so established it, that it has preserved it (though not without some considerable interruptions) to this day. About 170 years afterwards we find it described by Ingulphus, abbot of Croyland, as a thriving and celebrated seminary, and seat of learning: and to come lower, Matthew Paris tells us, it had no less than 3000 clergy students of it, in his time.

It is distributed into two bodies, the academicks, and the citizens, equally inhabitants of the same place, but differing very considerably from one another in their employments, manners, and privileges. The jurisdiction and authority of the university is much more extensive than that of the town. The magistracy of the university not only take place of that of the town, but controul and over-rule them, even in most of those affairs that more immediately concern the city itself. Not only the chancellor and vice-chancellor, but the proctors, who are officers inferior to the former, are empowered to punish either townsmen or sojourners, in case of misbehaviour, either with imprisonment, corporal punishment, or removal. These have also their officers, called clerks of the market, who take care that no unwholesome meat is sold there, and regulate the prices, weights, measures, &c. In a word the university has as many officers as answer the several interests and occasions of her members, and these invested with as much authority and power as is necessary for that purpose. And for the further security and advantage of this learned body, Henry III. constituted four aldermen and eight associates, chosen and to be chosen out of the most eminent of the citizens, to restrain the citizens from whatsoever insolencies they might offer, or violences they might attempt against the scholars. And the power he gave them for this end was very competent and ample, but limited with the obligation of an oath, which the mayor, aldermen, bailiffs, and fifty others of the principal citizens, are obliged to renew every year in the chief church of the university, to maintain all the rights, privileges, and liberties of the university. And as an acknowledgement and token of their duty herein, the mayor and citizens aforesaid do every year, upon *Scholastica-day** as it is called, that is, on February the 13th, pay every one a penny publickly to the university assembled upon occasion of this solemnity.

The university is privileged to send two representatives to parliament, by a charter from King James I. *anno* 1603.

The university has a right to make its own laws, which accordingly it has altered and changed as seemed most suitable to the variations of exigencies and emergencies. Henry V. who had his education here, began a reformation of the statutes as they stood in his time, which himself not living to finish, the university entered upon the prosecution of his designs, but without success. As fruitless were the succeeding efforts, that were made to this purpose, in the reign of king Henry VIII. by cardinal Wolsey, and again in the reign of king Edward VI. and then in the reign of queen Mary by cardinal Pool, and lastly by William Earl of Pembroke, Chancellor of Oxford; until in the reign of king Charles I. (who pressed the completion of this great work with repeated importunities, and was pleased to forward it with his princely assistance and advice) it was brought to perfection by Dr. William Laud, lord Archbishop of Canterbury; and the statutes thus amended and reformed, having passed the judgement and approbation of the university, and the seals of the king, and of the archbishop and chancellor, were most hum-

* A Romish saint, said to be the sister of St. Benedict, who founded the Benedictine monks.

bly and joyfully received by the university assembled in convocation, and sworn and subscribed to by the heads of houses.

The chancellor of Oxford is chosen in convocation, by scrutiny or collection of votes. His province or office is to guard and preserve the government and good order of the whole university; to take care that its rights, privileges and liberties, suffer no violation or diminution; to convene convocations and congregations: to promote to degrees; to hear and determine disputes and controversies; to preside and act as judge in his own court; to punish offenders; and to see that the mayor and citizens renew their oath before-mentioned every year to the university, &c. His jurisdiction extends five miles round Oxford.

The high-steward is chosen by the chancellor, who recommends him to the university for their approbation and confirmation of his choice. His office and duty is to defend and maintain the rights, liberties, and privileges of the university; to be ready upon their motion and application, to assist the chancellor, or his vice-chancellor, and the proctors, in the discharge and execution of their offices; and to judge and pass sentence in capital causes, by virtue of mandate or commission from the chancellor, according to the laws of the realm, and the privileges of the university.

The vice-chancellor must be one of the heads of the colleges, and is recommended to the university by the chancellor's nomination. His office is to supply the chancellor's place, and he acts with such ample power as his deputy, that his acts of authority are equivalent to the chancellor's, except in some cases extraordinary. It is incumbent upon him to take care that the sermons be duly preached, the lectures read, and the exercises performed; that offenders be discovered and punished; that hereticks and schismatics be expelled and sent out of the bounds of his jurisdiction; that the proctors and other officers, and the servants of the university, acquit themselves as they should do in their respective posts and duties; that the university receive no damage in the estates and property belonging to it, and that its writings and records be carefully and faithfully preserved; that all things go on regularly and orderly in his court, and that the mayor, &c. renew their oath annually to the university: In a word, to contribute his best endeavours for the vindication and promotion of the honour and interest of the university, the encouragement of merit and virtue, and the progress and advancement of learning.

The two proctors are chosen every year out of the colleges, which have their turns, two at a time, of election assigned them, in a certain course or order, specified and appointed by the royal authority for that purpose. They are elected by the masters of their particular colleges. Their office and duty is to take care of, and supervise the university's affairs and accounts; to ask and gather the votes of congregations and convocations in scrutinies; to administer oaths at the taking of degrees; to see that the writings, records, and monuments of the university, be preserved safe and intire; to attend the academical exercises and acts; to find out disorderly persons, and those that keep ill houses; and to make inquiry after all violations and infringements of the statutes and privileges of the university, and to punish the authors of them.

The publick orator's business is to draw up such letters for the university, as the convocation or congregation have determined shall be sent, and to read what he has writ, in the convocation-house: he is also to make orations or speeches, suited to times and occasions, upon the reception or entertainment of princes and people of high rank and station, when they come to the university, or upon any other emergency, when the vice-chancellor shall think it proper for him to make a speech.

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The chancellor, and in his absence the vice-chancellor, has six beadles to attend him; three of the superior order, one for the profession of divinity, one for law, and one for physick and arts, who are esquires by their places, and whose staves are gilt; and three of an inferior order, called also yeomen-beadles, whose staves are only plain silver.

The business of the beadles is to attend the chancellor or vice-chancellor, to walk before him, with their staves erected, when he goes abroad, especially upon publick business; to carry his orders and commands; and, at his pleasure, to seize upon the persons of delinquents, and convey them into custody. Citations and summons, giving publick notice of court-days and convocations, are another part of their office; as it is also to conduct the preachers to church, and the professors and lecturers to the schools, and afterwards to bring them home again, &c. The beadles walk with the heads of their staves upwards before the chancellor, downwards before the vice-chancellor.

Beside the beadles, there is a virger, who is not tied to so constant attendance as the beadles, but only at some certain times, and upon more solemn and extraordinary occasions, goes before the chancellor or vice-chancellor, at the head of the beadles, with a silver wand or rod in his hand.

There are several other officers and servants of less note belonging to the university. But these we shall omit.

The university church is that which is dedicated to the blessed virgin, and stands very conveniently for the university's use, in the middle of the city, and as it were in the centre of the colleges. It is a magnificent and regular structure both without and within, and a very high and beautiful steeple (conspicuous for several miles) rises from the middle of it. The nave, or body of the church, is the place for the university sermons and prayers. The vice-chancellor's, doctor's, noblemen's, and proctor's seats are at the west end; and the masters have their seats lower, and nearer the pulpit. The batchelors of arts, and under-graduates, above servitors, sit in galleries raised against the west end of the church, and part of the two sides. After a Latin sermon, at the beginning of every term, the sacrament is celebrated in the choir of the church by the doctors and masters, &c. And at certain times the doctors and masters are obliged, when they come to church, to appear in their hoods and scarlet gowns.

The theatre, a very large, magnificent, and elegant pile of building, was raised by doctor Gilbert Sheldon, late lord archbishop of Canterbury. The back part of it is semicircular, which makes the form of the whole approach near to that of an half oval. All that part of it which is under ground, and that which is above the flat roof, are offices for printing, drying the sheets, &c. And that ample and august room between is dedicated to the exercises and occasions of the university at their publick acts, and upon other special or extraordinary solemnities. The distribution and order of seats and places at those times is as follows: the vice-chancellor, the professors, doctors, curators of the theatre, noblemen, and inceptors in the higher professions or faculties, have their places in a semicircular range of seats rising one above another. The vice-chancellor sits in a large handsome elbow-chair made of oak, in the middle of the uppermost row. That part of the area, which is next under the doctors, and is railed in at the time of acts, is at that time the place for the inceptors in arts; at other times the whole lies open, and is common to all masters of arts, regent and not regent. The lower galleries on either hand, that join the place of the doctors, are for the non-regent masters, and at the ends of them there stand out *rostrums*, or large square seats, in a sort of pulpit form, for the two proctors. The lower gallery beyond that on the west-side is for the gentlemen of the university of Cambridge. That oppo-

situate to it, on the east side, is for strangers. The two lower galleries, on each side of the front-door, are for ladies. The gallery above them is for the musick. The galleries over the non-regent masters are for gentlemen-commoners and batchelors of arts. That over the gentlemen of Cambridge, and that over the strangers, are for commoners, scholars of houses, and under-graduates in general. That part of the area or floor, which is without the rails, is open to all other comers. The whole roof entertains the eye with a noble piece of painting; and perhaps the world has not a piece of art more admirable in that kind, than the contrivance of the timber work that keeps up so wide a flat roof. This edifice stands in an open place or yard; the front facing the divinity-school, with iron palisades before the back part; and on the two sides are two walls, with convenient cavities in them, in which are placed that rare collection of remote antiquity, the Arundelian and Seldenian marbles; the former given to the university by the honourable Henry Howard, grandson of Thomas earl of Arundel; the latter by the executors of Mr. Selden, distinguished by the letter S from the Arundelian, which are marked with the letter H. And that the same munificence which had reared this mighty fabrick, might secure it from any danger of decay, his grace the archbishop gave further 2,000 pounds to buy an estate, the revenues of which he assigned for repairing the theatre; and whatever overplus should remain after that was taken care of, to go to the use and further furniture of the printing-house, whose letters, presses, &c. were also all at first his grace's benefaction.

The Divinity school is an ancient building, not only roofed, but intirely built with free-stone. It was no less than fifty-three years in building and finishing, being begun *anno* 1427, and not finished till the year 1480. The work of the roof is very curious and ornamental.

The Schools of Arts being built contiguous to the two ends of that part or extent of the Bodleian library, which looks eastward, make a spacious and splendid quadrangle, or square court. Under the east side of the Bodleian library, which is the west of the school's quadrangle, is the Proscholium, a spacious handsome walk before the Divinity-school, in which candidates for degrees, in token of supplicating for them, stand with their heads uncovered before their graces are proposed. On the south side are the schools of medicine or anatomy, rhetorick, natural philosophy, and musick. On the north side are the schools of law, moral philosophy, languages, grammar, and history. On the east are the schools of geometry and arithmetick, astronomy, metaphysicks, logick; between which stands a lofty tower, the lower part of it being the great gate or porch of entrance, over which is a mathematical library for the Savilian professor; and over that, part of the school's gallery; over that, the university archives or repository for its records and writings; and at top is an astronomical observatory. The west side of this tower, which fronts the area of the schools, is adorned with beautiful columns, rising on either side in pairs, and answering to the five divisions aforesaid; the first pair being of the Tuscan order, the second of Dorick, the third the Ionick, the fourth the Corinthian, and the fifth the Composite. At the top of the fourth division there sits a figure of King James I. holding out a book in his right hand to fame sounding a trumpet, and in his left another to a matron, representing the university.

The school of medicine or anatomy contains a very rich and copious treasure of extraordinary productions both of nature and art, besides many rare antiquities, and other remarkable curiosities.

The botanick or physick garden is situate without the east gate of the town, on the west bank of the river Charwell; the front of it is opposite to the south side of Magdalen college. The ground (which was formerly a burying-place belonging to the Jews, but,

at the time when the earl of Danby purchased it, belonged to Magdalen college) was bought and furnished with rich and beautiful variety of plants, and the walls and the portals of stone, very beautiful, were built by Henry earl of Danby, who, having resolved to immortalize his memory, by some considerable benefaction to the university, and having some time deliberated with himself what benefaction might be most useful and serviceable to them, at length came to a resolution (that I may use the words of his own inscription) "of doing glory to God, honour to the king, and service to the university and the publick," in this liberal donation, which cost his lordship 5,000*l.* besides which, he spared neither trouble nor charge to stock the garden with valuable and useful plants of all sorts and species: this garden was levelled and laid out, and the walls and porches built, in the years 1632 and 1633.

There are two professors or lecturers of divinity, the Regius and the Margaret professor; as they are commonly called.

His duty is to expound some part of holy scripture, twice every week, in term-time, on Mondays and Fridays, at nine of the clock in the morning, in the divinity-school, and to moderate at the disputations every Thursday at one of the clock at noon.

The Margaret professorship was founded *anno* 1496.

His duty is to expound some part of holy scripture, every week in term-time, on Tuesdays and Thursdays, at nine of the clock in the morning.

Physick professorship was founded and endowed by King Henry VIII. *anno* 1540.

His duty is to read upon Hippocrates or Galen, twice a week in term-time, viz. on Tuesdays and Fridays, at eight of the clock in the morning, in the medicine or anatomy school.

The professorship of civil law was founded *anno* 1545, and endowed *anno* 1546, by King Henry VIII.

His duty is to expound some part of the *Corpus Juris Civilis*, especially such titles as may be of most use in this kingdom, twice every week in term-time, viz. on Tuesdays and Thursdays, at ten of the clock in the morning, in the school of law.

The Hebrew professorship was founded and endowed at the same time with that of civil law, and by the same royal hand.

His duty is to illustrate the grammatical part, and the idioms or proprieties of the Hebrew, out of the Hebrew text of holy scripture; and this he is obliged to do twice a week in term-time, on Wednesdays and Saturdays, between the hours of one and two in the afternoon.

The Greek professorship was also founded and endowed by King Henry VIII. and at the same time with the Hebrew.

His duty is to instruct his auditors with critical remarks and observations, useful for their improvement in the grammatical and idiomatical part, upon Homer, Demosthenes, Isocrates, Euripides, or any other of the old and classical Greek authors. And this he is to do twice a week in term-time, on Wednesdays and Saturdays, between the hours of one and two in the afternoon.

The foregoing lectureships or professorships (the Margaret excepted) are in the gift of the crown.

The Arabick lecture was founded by Dr. William Laud, lord archbishop of Canterbury, and chancellor of the university, *anno* 1636, and endowed by the same munificent hand, *anno* 1640.

His duty is to read upon ancient and approved authors; to distinguish and illustrate the proprieties and elegances of the language; to express and explain the grammatical sense and construction; to shew the affinity between the Arabick, Hebrew, and

Syriack; to stay some time in the school after his lecture is finished, and answer such questions and difficulties as to which his auditors shall desire to be satisfied, &c. He is to read in vacations, on Wednesdays at nine o'clock in the morning, and in Lent at eight, in the school of Languages.

The history professorship was founded and endowed in the year 1622, by William Camden, Esq. Clarenceux, king at arms, and master of arts in this university.

This professor is to read upon Lucius Florus, or some other ancient classical historian of good note, twice a week in term-time, *i. e.* on Mondays and Fridays, between the hours of one and two in the afternoon.

The moral philosophy lecture was founded and endowed by Thomas White, D. D. prebendary of St. Paul's, canon of Christ-Church, and treasurer of the church of Salisbury, *anno* 1621, which lecture, by the founder's appointment, was, after his death, to be held no longer than five years by one man, who was to be immediately succeeded by any one of the same college.

His duty is to read upon and expound, and briefly discuss Aristotle's ethicks, politicks, œconomicks, twice in the week in term-time, viz. on Tuesdays and Fridays, at eight o'clock in the morning. The first of these lecturers was William Price, M. A. and student of Christ-Church.

The natural philosophy lecture was founded and endowed by Sir William Sedley, knt. and bart. of Aylesford in Kent, *anno* 1622.

His duty is to read upon and expound Aristotle's physicks, or his books de Cœlo and Mundo, his Meteorology, his Parva Naturalia, his books de Anima, or de Generatione and Corruptione, twice a week in term-time, upon Wednesdays and Saturdays, at eight o'clock in the morning, in the Natural Philosophy school.

The two lectures of geometry and astronomy were founded and endowed by Sir Henry Savile, knt. and first warden of Merton, then provost of Eaton college, *anno* 1619.

The professor of geometry is obliged to read twice every week in term-time, viz. on Wednesdays and Saturdays, at eight o'clock in the morning, in the geometry school, upon Euclid's Elements, Apollonius's Conicks, and Archimedes's books, to commit his lectures to writing, and to leave them, for the benefit of posterity, in the mathematical library.

The professor of astronomy is obliged to read twice every week in term-time, viz. on Mondays and Thursdays, at eight o'clock in the morning, in the astronomy school, upon Ptolemy's Almegist, Copernicus, &c. to commit his lectures to writing, and to leave them, for the benefit of posterity, in the mathematical library.

It is also part of the geometry professor's province, at such other times as the university shall approve of, to teach and explain the principles and rules of arithmetick, practical geometry, musick, and mechanicks; as it belongs to the astronomy professor's place to teach and explain the principles, &c. of opticks, gnomonicks, geography, and navigation, so far as it is purely mathematical. But both professors were absolutely forbid meddling with judicial astrology, calculation of nativities, and the like.

Besides the authors aforementioned, which either professor is obliged to read upon, both of them are permitted by their founder to read upon, if they please, Theodosius's and Menelaus's Sphericks, and the doctrine of Triangles, both plain and spherical.

The musick lecture was founded and endowed by William Heyther, who belonged to the king's chapel, and was doctor in musick of this university, *anno* 1626.

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This professor's duty is to read upon the theory of this art once or oftener, in every term, between eight and nine o'clock in the morning, in the Musick school. Besides which, another branch of his foundation was a praxis of musick to be performed in the said school every Thursday in every term, except Lent term.

The anatomy lecture was founded and endowed by Richard Tomlyns, of Westminster, Esq. *anno* 1623.

His business is every spring publickly to shew, teach, and explain the situation, nature, uses and offices of the severall parts of a human body; and to read upon a skeleton every Michaelmas term, at the hours appointed for lectures in physick. This lecture goes along with that of medicine. There is likewise a chymistry professor.

The botany lecture was founded and endowed by Henry Danvers, earl of Danby, *anno* 1640; but neither the lecture nor foundation settled till the year 1669.

This professor is not tied to certain times of reading, which he could not be because of the uncertainty of the growth and maturation of the plants. His business is to distinguish the severall species, and explain the properties and virtues of them.

The poetry lecture was founded by Henry Birkhead, of All-Souls college.

Besides these endowed professorships and lectures there are also four not endowed, viz. metaphysicks, logick, rhetorick, and grammar. Sir Edwin Sandys, baronet, left in his will a very liberal endowment for the first, but the university were disappointed of it. This lecturer is to read twice every week in the term, in the school of Metaphysicks, at eight o'clock in the morning, on Tuesdays and Fridays, upon Aristotle's metaphysicks, to explain the text, and briefly to dispute over questions.

The logic lecturer is to read every week in term, on Mondays and Thursdays, at eight o'clock in the morning, in the Logick school, upon Porphyry's introduction, or any part of Aristotle's logick, and to dispute over questions relating to what he reads upon, with all convenient brevity.

The rhetorick lecturer is to read every week in term, on Mondays and Thursdays, at eight o'clock in the morning, in the Rhetorick school, upon Aristotle's, Tully's, Quintilian's, or Hermogenes's rhetorick; and to collect their rules and observations into a system or body.

The grammar lecturer is to read every week in term, on Tuesdays and Fridays, at eight o'clock in the morning, in the Grammar school, either upon the technical part, or grammar properly so called, out of Priscian, Linacer, or some other approved grammarian; or upon the critical or philological part, the subject of antiquities, Greek or Roman.

These four last professors are chosen every two years; and their stipends are collections from the inceptors, and other members of the university, only the indigent ones excepted.

The publick act (unless dispensed with by a vote of convocation) is celebrated every year upon the first Monday after the seventh day of July, and the vespers, as they are called, on the Saturday before.

The whole solemnity is ushered in by the *encænia*, or more polite exercises, which are performed in the theatre on the Friday before, beginning at one o'clock in the afternoon. These exercises are opened by two of the inceptors in arts with elegant orations. - Then follow mathematical, critical, chronological questions, &c. together with the discussion of them: and lastly, philological compositions both in verse and prose.

On Saturday, the next day after, the *vesperæ* are celebrated; when all the professors or readers in arts are obliged to meet at St. Mary's, every one in his academical habit, at eight o'clock in the morning; from whence they go afterwards in procession to the schools, the beadles going before them; and every one taking his seat in his proper school, reads a lecture in his proper profession or art.

The other professors or lecturers read at the usual hours, in the respective schools, dressed in their proper academical robes or habits. Only the Margaret professor, whose ordinary hour of reading is nine o'clock, upon this occasion reads at eight; and the several professors of physick, Hebrew, Greek, and history, read at nine o'clock. While these lectures are reading, all the inceptors, in their several faculties, are obliged to go round the schools in their academical habits, with their heads bare, and the beadles going before them, and to desire the presence of the professors at the *vespers* that afternoon, and the *comitia* on Monday.

In the afternoon, at one of the clock, the inceptors in every faculty begin their disputations, which continue until five. The inceptors in arts dispute in the theatre, and those in medicine, law and divinity, dispute in the schools appropriated to their respective faculties. And to prevent the inconvenience of any questions of a dangerous or pernicious nature, or tending more to cavil, sophistry and contention, than real edification and improvement, the theses which are to be disputed on in every faculty, either in the *vespers* or the *comitia*, are proposed some time before in the convocation-house, there to be approved by the ruling part of the university, without which they must not be disputed on.

On Sunday there are two sermons preached, peculiarly distinguished as act-sermons, at St. Mary's, in English, one at ten o'clock in the morning, the other at three in the afternoon.

On Monday, about nine o'clock in the morning, all the inceptors meet in the east chapel or choir of St. Mary's church, being conducted thither from their respective colleges and halls by the beadles. There they go to prayers, which being over, they come up to the communion-table, and there, with all decency and reverence, they make their offerings; the vice-chancellor first, then the inceptors, and then the proctors. After this they go to the theatre, and there they enter upon the exercises of the act, properly so called, in the midst of a thronging circle, and a prodigious concourse of observing and attentive auditors and spectators; the learned and the curious, quality and gentry, flowing at that time, in numerous companies to Oxford, not only from all parts of Great Britain and Ireland, but from Germany and other countries of the Continent.

The inceptors in every faculty propose and dispute upon three questions, in due order, form, and method. The inceptors in arts are the first performers; and the next are the inceptors in musick, if there be any; of whom it is required, that they should entertain the assembly with one or two compositions and performances, consisting at least of six or eight parts, in a concert of musick vocal and instrumental. This done, they are presented to their degrees in musick by the Savilian professors. Then follow the creations and disputations in physick, law, and divinity. And all these ceremonies and exercises having passed in due form and order, the vice-chancellor closes the act with a speech, in which he recites what has happened the year before for the advantage and to the honour of the university, and particularly what benefactions the munificence of its patrons and friends has conferred upon it.

On the Tuesday after, a Latin sermon, *ad clerum*, is preached in St. Mary's church, at eight o'clock in the morning: And the inceptors in arts are made actual masters.

It

It is not my province to inform you of the several gradations and changes this university has undergone in its publick library; and therefore I shall only remark, that its present esteem is owing to the generous benefactions of Sir Thomas Bodley; whose reform and improvement of the place itself was not compleated until after the year 1599. And that rich collection of books which he gave, and for which he had trafficked to very distant kingdoms and countries, soon grew to a much greater bulk by those other large benefactions which flowed to this library, either from the coffers or the studies of publick-spirited men; as particularly Robert earl of Essex gave three hundred volumes, most of them folios; Thomas Sackvill, lord-treasurer, and chancellor of the university, gave a hundred pounds; Robert Sidney, viscount Lisle, gave a hundred pounds: George Cary, lord Hunsden, gave a hundred and twenty volumes; George Gent, Esq. gave a hundred and seventy volumes; Thomas Allen, M. A. of Gloucester-hall, gave eighteen manuscripts out of his private library; and Thomas James, M. A. who was designed to be the first librarian, gave about a hundred manuscripts, besides some printed books; the lord Mountjoy, afterwards earl of Devonshire, gave a hundred pounds; the dean and chapter of Exeter, one hundred thirty-two manuscripts; Tobias Matthew, bishop of Durham, fifty pounds; Henry Brook, lord Cobham, fifty pounds, &c. The founder has by his statutes appointed two librarians, an upper and an under one, assigning the former a salary of almost 40*l.* *per annum*, and the latter 10*l.* a year, besides 8*l.* a year for the door-keeper: he has also appointed eight curators, the vice-chancellor and proctors for the time being, and the professors of divinity, law, physick, Hebrew, and Greek, who are once in the year to go to the library as visitors, and examine the state of it, and whether any of the books have been stolen or abused. The same generous founder persuaded the booksellers of London to a resolution, of sending a copy of every book they printed to the library, which afterwards they were required to do by an act of parliament. And he spared neither pains nor expence in procuring still more and more books for this repository of learning. I proceed to an enumeration of the chief benefactors to the publick library, that followed so worthy an example. Henry Piercy, earl of Northumberland, gave 100*l.* Sir George Cary, 95*l.* Sir Walter Raleigh, 50*l.* Sir John Scudamore, 40*l.* Dr. Thomas Bilson, bishop of Winchester, 50*l.* Sir George More, of the county of Surrey, 40*l.* and some books; Robert Cecil, viscount Cranbourne, and afterwards earl of Salisbury, 66*l.* 13*s.* 4*d.* William Paget, baron of Beaudefert, 100*l.* Henry Wryothesley, earl of Southampton, 100*l.* The lady Alice Owen of London, widow, 100*l.* Sir Charles Danvers, 100*l.* Owen Uroodd, dean of Armagh, 66*l.* 13*s.* 4*d.* George Abbot, archbishop of Canterbury, 50*l.* The dean and chapter of Windsor, one hundred and fifty manuscripts; Thomas Twyne, of Lewes in Suffex, about one hundred and twenty manuscripts; William James, bishop of Durham, 100*l.* Charles Croke, of Cornwall, gentleman, a legacy of 100*l.* Sir William Sedley, knight and baronet, 100*l.* Sir Thomas Roe, bart. a very large collection of Oriental books.

This library not affording room for the books that were given to it. Sir Thomas Bodley added a length or gallery to it, looking eastward, supported by the *proscholium* or passage before the divinity school; by which addition he gave the library the figure of the letter T. And the university afterwards raised the west side, which contains the west gallery of the library, the convocation-house, and the *apodyterium*, partly at his own expence, and partly out of benefactions. By this last addition the form of the library came to resemble the letter H. In this west part is that vast collection of Greek manuscripts, called the *Baroccian* manuscripts, having been procured out of the *Baroccian* library in Italy, and given to the university by William Herbert, Earl of Pembroke, and

and chancellor of the university. On the right hand of these are 235 volumes, or more, which were given by Sir Kene'm Digby. On the left are the manuscripts which were given by William Laud, archbishop of Canterbury. These manuscripts are in a great variety of languages, as Hebrew, Syriack, Chaldee, Egyptian, Ethiopick, Armenian, Arabick, Perfick, Turcick, Russian, Chinese, Japan, Greek, Latin, Italian, French, Saxon, English, Irish, &c. Afterwards, in the year 1659, almost all the rest of this west side was filled by the accession of Mr. Selden's library, consisting of more than 8,000 volumes.

The *Musæum Ashmoleanum*, as it is called, or that edifice which is distributed into the Chymick office, the school of natural history, and the Ashmolean Study, properly so called, is regular, beautiful, and lofty, situate on the west of the theatre. It was built by the university, who laid the foundation in the year 1679, and finished it in 1683. It was designed chiefly, as I was told, for the uses of medicine and natural philosophy. The upper large room is delightfully and pompously lined with a surprising scene and a prodigious variety of curiosities, both natural and artificial, besides very valuable antiquities, given by Elias Ashmole, Esq. Dr. Robert Huntingdon, &c.

The structure of this printing-house is very large, splendid, and magnificent. It is situated on the east of the theatre, and is called the Clarendon printing-house, in honour of the late lord-chancellor Clarendon, and in acknowledgment of that noble and advantageous benefaction (his lordship's history) which is two sons, the right honourable the earls of Clarendon and Rochester, made a present of in manuscript to the university. This printing-house was erected at the university's charge.

Before any colleges were built, the residence for students used to be in citizens houses; and these places were called halls, by way of distinction: and the scholars in these halls, if they were not such as maintained themselves upon their own bottom, were provided for by men of high stations or great estates, bishops, noblemen, &c. Again, others rather chose religious houses to follow their studies in, but without any monastick vows. But these conveniencies gave way to much better upon the erection of colleges, first called halls, as those private houses or places of lodging had been where the business of education and learning went on before.

Those societies, which are called colleges, consist of a head or governor, and a number of fellows, or of fellows and scholars. These heads are variously called, in one house president, in another provost, in another rector, in another warden, in another master, in another principal, in Christ-church, dean. They are chosen by the fellows; only the dean of Christ-church, together with the canons, is of royal nomination. Each of the colleges has a considerable estate, out of which the head, the fellows, the scholars, the officers and servants, receive good stipends for their maintenance: and above a thousand persons are this way liberally provided for in this place. The head and fellows chuse officers every year; a vice-president, or sub-warden, or whatever name he bears, who acts for the president, in his absence; a dean, who looks after the exercises of learning that are to be done in the house, and the morals and behaviour of the scholars (the latter part is, in Christ-church, the office of the two censors); and a burser or bursters, who take care of the college estate, and keep the college accounts. The scholars of the house, and all under-graduates and batchelors of arts, are under the government of the fellows, as well as of the head; the fellows are under the government of the head; and both subject to the jurisdiction of the visitor, in whom is the last resort of ordinary power, and who composes all differences, and decides all disputes among them. Every one of these societies, except Christ-church (where occasional determinations and appointments of the dean and chapter are instead of a law) are obliged

to observe certain customs and statutes according to the injunctions and regulations of founders and benefactors. The fellows, or other graduates, by the appointment, or with the leave of the head, undertake the office of tutors, which is to govern more immediately the non-graduates intrusted to their care, to watch their behaviour, and inspect their manners, to teach them the several parts or branches of academical learning, &c. And for this their tutors are handsomely rewarded according to the quality of the pupil. Beside the chamber-tutors, every college has its publick lecturers, who read to the youth in the hall or chapel, and preside over their publick exercises. The members of these societies are divided, either with respect to university degrees, into doctors, batchelors of the three faculties, masters of arts, batchelors of arts, and non-graduates; or, with respect to their private conditions and circumstances, into noblemen, whether of the upper order, as princes, dukes, &c. or baronets and knights of the lower, and gentlemen-commoners; all which are admitted to conversation and decent familiarity with the head and fellows, and commoners, who live like gentlemen, and servitors, who subsist in a great measure upon the menial offices in which they attend upon others. These and the commoners are not ordinarily admitted to the conversation of the fellows till they come to be masters of arts, or at least batchelors, where there are batchelor fellows. The fellows generally are chosen out of the scholars of the house, that enjoy the lesser endowments in subordination to the fellowships. They have their stated hours of prayer, at least twice a day, publick and private lectures and exercises, hours of studying, &c. and are punished for delinquencies and omissions by little fines called *sconces*, by imposition of tasks extraordinary, by crossing or stopping of their names in the manciple's and butler's books, so that they cannot eat or drink upon their own account till that cross or stop be taken off; and, in worse cases, by dismissing them from the college for a time, or (if necessity requires) for altogether. Besides the Bodleian or university library, common to the academical body, every college has its own library, into which no scholars of the house, commoners, or servitors are admitted, till they have taken the degree of batchelor of arts, or are of three years standing, being entered upon the law-line: they eat together at dinner and supper in the publick hall, at different tables, according to their different degrees and denominations; only the servitors wait on the rest till they have dined or supped. After meals, the fellows, noblemen, gentlemen-commoners, and commoner-masters, retire to a place which is called the common-room, where they refresh themselves for some time with conversation and diversions. The batchelors of arts have also such a common-room in some colleges. They must be, according to the statutes of the university, in the college at nine o'clock at night. Their chambers, generally speaking, are commodious and handsome, and not a few of them very splendid and well ornamented. They have several under-officers, who have good salaries, as their steward, their manciple, who markets for them, their butlers, their cooks, their porter, their barber, &c. The buildings of the university and the colleges are all of large square free-stone, of which there is plenty in the adjacent parts of the country.

University college is situate near the east-gate of the city, on the south-side of the high-street, and partly in St. Peter's, partly in St. Mary's parish. It is so very ancient, that we are left in the dark about the time of its foundation. That it was in being before the year 721 is certain, from an address or petition of parliament to Richard II. quoted by Mr. Wood. How much older it is, is not so evident, though there is great probability it had been founded ages before. King Alfred could not be so properly called the founder, as the restorer of this university; for he rescued it out of that state of devastation which the Danes had left it in; though, after his death it fell again under the

same unhappy circumstances, and continued in obscurity till it was recovered, *anno* 1332, to a state of liberty and independency, by a sum of money which William of Durham had left for the maintenance of a society of students in Oxford; from whom it was for some time called Durham-hall.

This college has educated and entertained many eminent men, both for quality and learning; as, John Shirwood, bishop of Durham; Leonard and Thomas Diggs, mathematicians; Sir Dudley Diggs, knight; Richard Stanihurst, the divine and historian; Sir George Crooke, lord chief justice of the King's-bench; Nicholas Ridley, bishop of London; Sir George Carew; the lord Herbert of Cherbury; and, in a much earlier age, those three men of famous memory, St. John de Beverley, venerable Bede, and St. Edmund, archbishop of Canterbury.

This college has one master, twelve fellows, ten scholars, two exhibitioners, &c.

It has one large beautiful quadrangle, or square court; the south-side of which is divided into a handsome hall and chapel, the latter adorned with fine glass windows.

The visitors are the vice-chancellor, the proctors, &c.

Baliol college stands in the north part of the town, in the suburbs, not far from the north-gate.

It was founded by John Baliol, father to John Baliol, king of Scots, and Dervorguilla, his wife.

The governors of this college were first called proctors, then principals or wardens, and lastly masters.

Humphrey, duke of Gloucester, was educated in this college, which has bred many great and learned men; Richard Fitz-Ralph, chancellor of this university, archbishop of Armagh; Roger Whelpdale, bishop of Carlisle; George Neville, chancellor of England and of the university, archbishop of York; William Grey, chancellor of the university, lord high-treasurer of England; Robert Abbot, *regius* professor of divinity, bishop of Salisbury; George Abbot, his brother, archbishop of Canterbury; George Sing, bishop of Clonfert, and privy-councillor in Ireland; Metrophanes Critophylus, patriarch of Alexandria; Cutbert Tonstal, bishop of Durham; John Tiptoft, earl of Worcester, lord high-treasurer of England; Sir Thomas Coventry, baron of Alesburgh, lord keeper of the great-seal of England; Thomas Holland, doctor and *regius* professor of divinity; Robert Parsons, the jesuit; John Rowse, the historian and antiquary; Hugh Holland, historian; James Cranford, the author of *Gangræna Hæresios*, &c.

This college has a master, twelve fellows, &c.

It has one large ancient quadrangle; on the north side of which is the chapel, and the library furnished with a very noble collection of books.

The founder of Merton college (which is situate in St. John's parish, in the south side of the city) was Walter of Merton, bishop of Rochester, and lord high-chancellor of England.

Among the famous men and writers this seminary boasts of, were John Duns Scotus, called the subtle or acute doctor; Walter Barley, called the plain and the approved doctor; William Occam, called the invincible doctor; Duns Scotus's great antagonist; Thomas Bradwardine, the profound doctor, archbishop of Canterbury; Robert Winchelsey, chancellor of the university; Simon Mephram, Simon Islep, and John Kemp, archbishops of Canterbury; William Rede, the mathematician, bishop of Chester; Thomas Rodburn, bishop of St. David's; John Parkhurst, bishop of Norwich; George Carleton, bishop of Chester; John Earle, bishop of Salisbury; Edward Reynolds, bishop of Norwich; John Jewel, bishop of Salisbury, with other eminent prelates;

Jasper

Jasper Heywood, the poet, and Arthur Faunt, jesuits; Sir Thomas Bodley; the famous Wickliff; Sir Henry Savile, baronet; Francis Mafon, author of the *Vindiciæ Ecclesiæ Anglicanæ*; Sir Isaac Wake, orator of the university, famous for his embassies; Sir Nathaniel Brent; John Graves, the famous linguist and mathematician; Thomas Farnabie, the grammarian; John Hales, *regius* professor of the Greek tongue, canon of Windsor; Francis Davenport, or *à Sancta Clara*, provincial of the minor friars; Anthony Wood, the antiquary, *cum multis aliis*.

This college has a warden, twenty fellows, fourteen portionists, or post-masters, &c.

The chapel, which is also the parish church of St John the Baptist, is a splendid, ancient piece of building. The inner large court or quadrangle is very beautiful. Besides which, this house is famous for a well furnished library, and a delightful garden.

The visitor is the archbishop of Canterbury.

Exeter college is situate on the west side of the schools, in the north-part of the town, the front of it answering the front of Jesus college.

It was founded, *anno* 1316, by Walter Stapledon, bishop of Exeter, privy-councillor to King Edward II. and lord high-treasurer of England.

William Courtney, archbishop of Canterbury; Michael Tregury, the first archbishop of Dublin; John Prideaux, rector here, *regius* professor of divinity, and bishop of Worcester; besides several other prelates; Sir William Petres, baronet, privy-councillor and secretary to King Henry VIII. King Edward VI. Queen Mary, and Queen Elizabeth; Sir John Doderidge, knt. chief justice of the common pleas; Mr. Noy, attorney general to King Charles I. Sir Simon Baskerville, physician; Sir William Maurice, secretary to King Charles II. William Wey, of Devon, the traveller; Lewis Bayly, author of the *Practice of Piety*; Gregory Wheare, the first professor of history; Nathaniel Carpenter, George Hakewell, Henry Tozer, Charles Herle, with other considerable men, were of this college.

It has a rector, twenty-three fellowships, &c.

The bulk of it is one large quadrangle, beautiful, and almost exactly regular and uniform.

In the front, which is a very noble one, stands a splendid tower over the gate.

The visitor is the bishop of Exeter.

Oriel college is situate on the south side of the town, in the parish of St. Mary's, and in the neighbourhood of Christ-Church, Merton, and *Corpus Christi* colleges. It was at first called St. Mary's college, and King's college, and was founded, *anno* 1324, by King Edward II.

Thomas Gascoigne, chancellor of the university; Reginald Peacock, bishop of Chichester; John Carpenter, provost, chancellor of Oxford, bishop of Worcester; William Alan, a cardinal; Sir Francis Kinaaston, Sir Walter Raleigh, baronet, and William Prynne, were of this college.

It has a provost, eighteen fellows, and twelve scholars or exhibitioners.

It consists of one handsome regular quadrangle.

The visitor is the bishop of Lincoln.

Queen's college is situate in the parish of St. Peter's in the east, and very near that parish-church.

It was founded, *anno* 1340, by Robert Eglesfield, batchelor of divinity in this university, and chaplain or confessor to Queen Philippa, King Edward III's consort; in honour of which lady the founder gave it the name of Queen's college, recommending it to her royal patronage and protection, and to that of all future queens of England.

The members of this society, as many as were to share the revenues of it, were to be chosen out of Cumberland or Westmoreland, some few excepted. There were to be one provost and twelve fellows of them, out of regard to the number of Christ and his apostles (which number of fellows is now increased to fourteen) and of seventy scholars, in allusion to the number of the seventy disciples, which seventy scholars are since reduced to a much smaller number. The statutes further required that the fellows, when they eat in the hall, should sit in purple gowns; and that the scholars should kneel down before them, and answer such questions in philosophy as the fellows should propose to them.

Of this college were those two renowned heroes Edward the black prince, the eldest son of King Edward III. and prince Henry, afterwards King Henry V. Henry de Beaufort, chancellor both of this university, and of the whole kingdom, bishop of Winchester, and cardinal; Christopher Bainbryge, provost of this house, archbishop of York, and cardinal; Thomas Langton, bishop of Winchester; Barnaby Potter, bishop of Carlisle, and other prelates; Sir Thomas Overbury, Richard Crakanthorp, Sir Henry Wotton, Francis Holyoke, and Gerard Langbaine, &c.

The society consists of a provost, fourteen fellows, seven scholars, two chaplains, taberdars, the number not always the same, &c.

The sublimity and stateliness of the buildings of this college cannot be so well described in printing as by the eye of a judicious spectator. One side of it, in which are the library, the provosts, and other spacious and stately lodgings, is 327 feet long, supported by an open cloister or piazza. This building is adorned with statues, &c. The library is long and lofty, very magnificent and beautiful, both within and without, and full of books.

The visitor is the archbishop of York.

New college is situate in the north, or rather the north-east part of the town, having Queen's college near to it, on the south, and on the east Magdalen college-grove.

It was called at first the college of the Blessed Virgin Mary, and was founded *anno* 1386, by William of Wykeham, bishop of Winchester, and lord high-chancellor of England, who was also the founder of Winchester school or college. The strong and high walls and towers he built round his college in Oxford were, in those days, a fortification to it no less than an ornament.

This college has produced many great and celebrated men; among others, Henry Chicheley, archbishop of Canterbury, the founder of All-Souls college; William Wainflete, bishop of Winchester, the founder of Magdalen college: Thomas Cranley, chancellor of Ireland, archbishop of Dublin; William Warham, archbishop of Canterbury; Thomas Young, archbishop of York; Thomas Bilson, Bishop of Winchester; Thomas Russell, chancellor of England, bishop of Lincoln, the first perpetual chancellor of the university; with other prelates; Thomas Harding, Nicholas Harpsfield, William Raynolds; Richard Whyte, the historian; John Pits; John Owen, the epigrammatist; John Twisse; Richard Zouch, *regius* professor of Law; Robert Talbot, canon of Norwich, antiquary; Thomas James, librarian of the Bodleian library; Thomas Lydiat, M. A. &c.

It has a warden, seventy fellows and scholars, ten chaplains, three clerks, sixteen choristers, &c.

Their chapel is most magnificent, solemn, and splendid, with an organ and choir. They have a very high noble tower, with a ring of ten bells in it, very musical; and under that, and the west end of the chapel, a very handsome and solemn square cloister, and

and a little garden within it. Their library is well furnished with books and manuscripts; and their great garden laid out in form. The front of it is a range of iron pallisades, and a gate of exquisite work; and at the south-east end they have a bowling-green. Their hall, which is at the end of the chapel, answers to the magnificence of the rest of the building.

The visitor is the bishop of Winchester.

Lincoln college is situate in the middle of the city, in the parish of All-Saints, having Brazen-Nose college in its near neighbourhood in the east, Exeter college on the north, and Jesus college on the north-west.

It was founded in the year 1427, by Richard Fleming, bishop of Lincoln.

William Bishop, a popish titular bishop of Chalcedon; William Gifford, archbishop and duke of Rhemes; Dr. Robert Sanderson, bishop of Lincoln; Dr. Nathanael lord Crew, bishop of Durham; Dr. George Hickes; Richard Knolles, author of the Turkish history; Sir William Davenant; and Henry Foulis, author of the Histories of the presbyterian and popish conspiracies, &c. were of this college.

This college has, at this time, a rector, 12 fellows, two chaplains, &c.

It has two small quadrangles, the structure of which is ancient, and not very regular, but yet not unelegant. The chapel is the most conspicuous part of it.

The visitor is the bishop of Lincoln.

All Souls college stands in the parish of St. Mary, the front of it facing the high-street, and the west side looking towards the east end of St. Mary's church.

It was founded *anno* 1437, by Henry Chicheley, archbishop of Canterbury, to the intent that prayers should be offered up there, for the souls of those that fell in Henry the fifth's wars in France, which the archbishop had advised and persuaded the king to enter into, and in which himself, attending him, had been a spectator of the terrible slaughter and carnage of his country-men and fellow-subjects, who lost their lives in that famous expedition.

Among the famous men it has produced, were, Thomas Key, the antiquary; Edward Chaloner; Richard Steuart; Thomas Linacer, preceptor to prince Arthur, and afterwards to his brother King Henry VIII. John Leland, the famous antiquary; Sir Clement Edmonds, who translated and commented on Cæsar's Commentaries; Henry Coventry, principal secretary of state to king Charles II. &c. Brian Duppa, bishop of Winchester; Jeremy Taylor, bishop of Down and Connor; Gilbert Sheldon, warden here, and afterwards lord archbishop of Canterbury.

This college has a warden, forty fellows, two chaplains, three clerks, six choristers, &c.

It has two courts; the larger a regular and stately old piece of building. The chapel is very august and solemn: and upon the walls are to be seen the ruins of good painting, which, though faded, is still ornamental in decay.

The visitor is the archbishop of Canterbury.

St. Mary Magdalen college is situate at the east end of the town, without the east gate, and adjoining to the bridge that lies over the Charwell.

It was founded *anno* 1458, by William Patten, alias Wainflete, bishop of Winchester, and lord high chancellor of England.

Cardinal Wolsey; Richard Fox, bishop of Winchester; Edward Lee, archbishop of York; John Longland, bishop of Lincoln; cardinal Poole; Acceptus Frewen, archbishop of York; besides many other prelates; William St. Maure, duke of Somerset; John Warner, bishop of Rochester; Ezekiel Hopkins, bishop of Raphoe; Sir John Digby, earl of Bristol; William Lillie and Thomas Robertson, grammarians; John Fox,

Fox, the martyrologist; Samuel Smith, the logician; Thomas Godwin, the grammarian and antiquary; Dr. Henry Hammond, and Dr. Peter Heylin, were of this college; with several other great and learned men.

It has a president, forty fellows, a school master, thirty scholars, called Demies, an usher, three publick readers, four chaplains, eight clerks, sixteen choristers, an organist, &c.

This college has two quadrangles, the innermost of which is regular, and almost uniform. It consists of a library and lodgings, supported by a spacious handsome cloister. The chapel and the great tower, as also the little one in the west side of the inner quadrangle, and the hall, are very magnificent and lofty. Their library is furnished with a large and choice collection of books. Besides these great and pompous conveniences, the president and fellows have their private gardens, extremely pleasant and beautiful. But that which renders this college more agreeable and delightful than perhaps any other in the world, is the advantage of their water walks, as they are called, and their grove. The first is a gravel-walk almost triangular, fenced with hedges and trees on both sides, surrounded on every part with a running stream, and inclosing a large meadow.

Their grove is a spacious extent of ground, planted with stately vistas of trees, and one part of it laid out into a bowling green.

The visitor of this college is the bishop of Winchester.

Brazen Nose college is situate in the middle of the town, having Lincoln college on the west, the library and schools on the north, St. Mary's church on the south-east, and the high-street on the south.

In the place where this college stands, there had before been a hall called Brazen Nose hall, from whence the college took its name, and that fancy of a monstrous nose which stands out at the top of the gate. It was founded by William Smyth, first bishop of Litchfield and Coventry, afterwards of Lincoln, counsellor to Prince Arthur, and president of Wales (the first that ever bore that office and character) and by Sir Richard Sutton, Knt.

Of this college were Sir Thomas Egerton, lord high-chancellor of England, and chancellor of this university; Sir James Ley, lord high-treasurer of England, and earl of Marlborough; Launcelot Bulkeley, archbishop of Dublin; Edward Brerewood, astronomy professor of Gresham college; John Guillim, author of the book of Heraldry; Robert Burton, author of the book of Melancholy, afterwards of Christ Church; Elias Ashmole, Esq. &c.

It has a principal, twenty fellows, thirty-three scholars and exhibitioners, &c.

It consists of two very handsome quadrangles; in the lesser of which are the chapel and library, and under them a wide and pleasant cloister, very compactly and elegantly built.

The visitor is the bishop of Lincoln.

The situation of Corpus Christi college is in the south side of the town. It stands inclosed by Oriel college in the front, Christ-Church on the west, and Merton college on the east.

This college was founded *anno* 1516, by Richard Fox, bishop of Winchester, privy-councillor, and lord privy-seal to King Henry VII. and King Henry VIII.

This college has been a seminary of many great and famous men: Among these, John Jewel, bishop of Sarum; Reginald Poole, archbishop of Canterbury, and cardinal; with other prelates; Johannes Ludovicus Vives; Richard Hooker, author of the Ecclesiastical Polity; John Reynolds, one of their presidents; Sir Edwin Sandys; Alexander

ander Gill, school-master of St. Paul's; Thomas Jackson, some time president of the house, and afterwards dean of Peterborough; Brian Twine, the antiquary; Daniel Fairclough, or Featly; Edward Pocock, professor of Hebrew and Arabick, &c.

It has a president, twenty fellows, twenty scholars, two chaplains, &c.

The structure of the first court is ancient, but the inside very regular and handsome. Their library contains a noble treasure of books; and their garden, though small, is laid out in very good form and order, and kept very neat. But the most splendid part of this college, is that stately row of lodgings on the south side thereof.

The visitor is the bishop of Winchester.

Christ Church college, which takes up a vast extent of ground, stands on the south side of the city, the front of it looking west.

It was begun to be founded *anno* 1525. The whole design was laid, and a considerable progress made in it, by the great and publick spirit, and out of the flowing wealth and prosperity of cardinal Wolsey; but, upon his disgrace, this unfinished, but immense foundation, was confiscated to his royal master King Henry VIII. whose princely value and esteem for learning, and concern for the encouragement and promotion of it, easily induced him to go on with the cardinal's great design. Hereupon the college was called, for some time, King's college; but his majesty, to avoid any such odious suspicion, as if he designed to aggrandize his own reputation and honour at the cardinal's cost, did not think fit such an ample foundation should be called either by his own or the cardinal's name, and therefore gave it the name of Christ-Church, and made it an episcopal see, *anno* 1546. Afterwards he enlarged the college (*anno* 1563) by joining to it Canterbury college, now called Canterbury quadrangle, which had been built by Simon Islip, archbishop of Canterbury, and Peckwater-Inn, or Vine-Hall, now Peckwater-Court, &c.

Of this house were those two princes, Charles prince of Wales, afterwards King Charles II. and James duke of York, afterwards King James II.

This college has furnished both church and state with many great and famous men; as John King, bishop of London; Tobias Matthews, archbishop of York; Richard Corbet, bishop of Norwich; John Bancroft, bishop of Oxford; Henry King, bishop of Chichester; Brian Duppa, and George Morley, bishops of Winchester; John Dolben, bishop of Rochester, afterwards archbishop of York; besides many other eminent prelates: John Leland, and William Camden, the famous historians and antiquaries; Francis Godwin, bishop of Hereford, author of the lives of the English bishops; Richard Corbet, Ben Johnson, William Cartwright, Corbet Owen, Jasper Mayne, poets: Clement Walker, author of the history of the independants; Sir Philip Sidney, baronet; Sir Dudley Carlton, viscount Dorchester, secretary to King Charles I. Robert Burton, the author of the book of Melancholy; Sir Edward Littleton, lord-keeper; Sir Robert Dudley, baronet, famous for his great knowledge in mathematics; Barten Holyday; Stephen Skinner, author of the Etymologicon; Merick Casaubon, the son of Isaac; Thomas Willis, M. D. Richard Allestree, D. D. *regius* professor of divinity, provost of Eaton.

This foundation is numerous and magnificent; has a dean, eight canons, one hundred and one students, eight chaplains, eight singing men, eight choristers, a teacher of musick for the choristers, an organist, a school-master and an usher, forty grammar scholars, a virger, &c. There is also belonging to it an hospital in the parish of St. Aldate, commonly called St. Ole's, which has twenty-four poor.

The buildings of this college are very large, august, and splendid. The great quadrangle, which is almost exactly square, has a wide and handsome terrace round it, and a fountain in the middle. Three sides of Peckwater quadrangle have been re-built; and the contrivance, grandeur, and beauty of them, are very surprising, and much admired. This college has also two other quadrangles of ancient structure, Canterbury and the Chaplains. The cathedral is lofty and solemn: their hall and library high and spacious. The latter contains a large and noble collection of books. On the south side lies a very large meadow which belongs to it, surrounded with a walk, and that walk with a river, except on the north side, where a double row of very tall and spreading elms cover the walk, which is in that part very wide and strait, and the middle of it laid with gravel. To be particular as to all the other buildings and lodgings, the gardens, offices, &c. belonging to this college, would be a task little less than describing a city.

The visitor is the King.

Trinity college stands in the north suburbs, in the parish of St. Mary Magdalen, in the neighbourhood of Baliol college, to the west, and St. John Baptist's, to the north.

In the same place where Trinity college is situate, was once Durham college (founded *anno* 1350, by Thomas Hatfield, bishop of Durham) a seminary for the monks of the church of Durham. Its present foundation was by Sir Thomas Pope, knt. of Tyttenhanger, in Hertfordshire, in the year 1550.

Of this college were the most reverend father in God, Dr. Gilbert Sheldon, lord archbishop of Canterbury, elected from hence to All-Souls college; the right reverend fathers in God, Dr. Gilbert Ironside, sen. lord bishop of Bristol, and Dr. Samuel Parker, lord bishop of Oxford; with other eminent prelates; Sir George Calvert, secretary to King James I. and baron of Baltimore; Sir John Denham, Sir Edward Hoby, Sir Edward Byfle, clarencieux, knts. William Chillingworth, M. A. Arthur Wilson, author of the history of King James the first's life; Dr. Daniel Whitby, &c.

It has a president, twelve fellows, twelve scholars, &c.

It has two quadrangles. In the first are the chapel, the hall, and the library. The chapel was rebuilt in the year 1693, and the work of it, both without and within, is wonderfully elegant. The altar-piece is of cedar inlaid; the rails and the screen are of cedar; and all adorned with exquisite carving. The roof is rich, with embellishments of fret-work, and an admirable piece of painting, representing our blessed Saviour's ascension. And the pavement, from the screen to the altar, is of black and white marble. On the east side of the college they have a very large delightful garden (once their grove;) and at the entrance and end of the great walk that goes through it, very noble iron gates, which leave a prospect open to the whole east side of the college.

The visitor is the bishop of Winchester.

St. John Baptist college is situate in the north suburbs, in the parish of St. Giles, having Baliol college and Trinity college in its neighbourhood on the south.

It was founded *anno* 1555, by Sir Thomas White, lord-mayor of London, in the place where formerly was St. Bernard's college, built by archbishop Chichley.

This society has been the parent of many great men: particularly the two most reverend fathers in God, William Laud, lord archbishop of Canterbury, chancellor of the university; and William Juxon, his immediate successor in the primacy, and lord high-treasurer of England, flourished in this seminary; as did also Tobias Matthews, archbishop of York; John Buckridge, bishop of Ely; Peter Mews, bishop of Winchester, besides other eminent prelates; Sir William Paddy, baronet; Sir John Marsham, knt. the famous antiquary and philologer; and Dr. William Creed, *regius* professor of divinity, &c.

This

This college has a president, fifty fellows and scholars, an organist, eight singing-men, four choristers, &c.

It has two spacious quadrangles, uniform and magnificent. The inner court is very splendid and elegant. The east and west sides of it are supported by noble piazzas, in the middle of which are two portals finely fronted with pillars and carving. In one of these fronts stands a very curious statue in brass of king Charles I. and in the other, another of the queen. Their chapel, which has an organ and choir in it, is handsome and solemn. Their library (if it may be called but one) which takes up the east and south sides of the new quadrangle, is spacious; and the east part of it a beautiful wide gallery; the whole well stocked with books, manuscripts, and valuable curiosities. Their hall is neat, and adorned with good pictures. They have also a very delightful shady grove; and a large piece of ground laid out into regular walks and grass-plats; and at the end of it an iron gate, of good work, through which you have an agreeable view, through the two passages of the inner quadrangle, to the west side of the outer.

The visitor is the bishop of Winchester.

Jesus college is situate opposite to Exeter college in the parish of St. Michael.

The society has bred several right reverend prelates: David Powell, the antiquary and historian, Thomas Powell, James Howell, Dr. Daniel Brevint, John Rider, the author of the dictionary, Sir Thomas Salisbury, baronet, were also members of it.

It has at this time, a principal, sixteen fellows, sixteen scholars, eight exhibitioners, &c.

It has two large handsome quadrangles; the innermost very regular and uniform.

The visitor is the earl of Pembroke.

Wadham college stands in the north skirts of the town, in the parish of St. Cross, alias Hawly-Well, the front looking towards the east side of Trinity college.

The founders of it were Nicholas Wadham, of Merefield, in Somersetshire, Esq. and Dorothy his wife.

Dr. Nicholas Monk, bishop of Hereford, Dr. John Gauden, bishop of Worcester, Dr. Seth Ward, bishop of Salisbury, Dr. Walter Blandford, bishop of Worcester, and Dr. John Wilkins, bishop of Chester, were of this college; as was also Sir Henry Yelverton, baronet, &c.

This college has one large, regular, beautiful quadrangle. The windows of the chapel, which is a building that stands out behind the quadrangle, to the east, regularly answering to the library, are finely painted. They have also a large garden, handsomely laid out, and very pleasant.

The visitor is the bishop of Bath and Wells.

Pembroke college is situate in the south side of the town, in the parish of St. Aldgate or St. Ole's, not far from Christ-Church.

This place was formerly a hall, called Broad-Gate-hall, and a nursery of learning, which bred many men of note; among others, John Story, professor of civil law; Thomas Young, archbishop of York; Edmund Bonner, bishop of London; John Philips, bishop of Sodor; Sir George Carew, earl of Totnes; Sir Thomas Brown, physician; William Camden, clarencieux, and Thomas Lushington. It was made a college by the munificence of Thomas Tesdale, Esq. *anno* 1624.

It has one handsome quadrangle, the front of which is a regular neat piece of building. They have a pleasant garden.

The visitor is the chancellor of the university.

This college was heretofore Gloucester-hall, called so either from Gilbert de Clare, earl of Gloucester, or more probably from the Benedictine monks of Gloucester, who, with others of the same order, made this a seminary for their order. Nor did it lose its primitive name, till it acquired a collegiate endowment by the noble munificence of Sir Thomas Cookes, of Aftely, in Worcestershire.

This college, while it was a hall, produced Sir Kenelm Digby; Thomas Coryat, the famous traveller; William Burton, antiquary, &c.

It has a provost, six fellows, six scholars, &c.

The visitors are the bishops of Oxford and Worcester, and the vice-chancellor.

Halls are places of education and erudition unendowed, though not destitute of exhibitions. They are now, out of a very great number, only six. The students in them subsist at their own charge, are under the government of a principal, and vice-principal, and pay the former for their lodging, and for his care and government of them. The principals are nominated by the chancellor, except the principal of Edmund-hall, who is named by Queen's college; that society not relinquishing their right of nomination, as others did.

Their visitor is the chancellor.

Alban hall is situate on the south side of the town, in the parish of St. John Baptist, adjoining to the east side of Merton college. It was called Alban-hall, from Robert St. Alban, who was once the proprietor of the place. It became an academical nursery about the year 1230.

Of this hall were Richard Fitz-James, bishop of London; Philip Massinger the poet; and Thomas Venner, physician.

Hart hall is situate in the parish of St. Peter's in the east, and over against the front or east side of the publick schools. It is supposed to have been called Hart-hall, from the first syllable of Elias Hartford's surname, who was once the proprietor of it. It has also been called Stapledon-hall, under which name Richard Wydeslade endowed it with maintenance for twelve scholars; which endowment, after he had built Exeter college, he translated from hence thither; and then this place obtained its old name again of Hart-hall.*

This hall has a stipend or exhibition belonging to it of more than 16*l.* *per annum.*

Of this house were Nicholas Fuller, canon of Salisbury, author of the *Miscellanea Sacra*; Dr. John Donne, dean of St. Paul's; Sir Richard Baker, and Mr. John Selden, the antiquary.

Edmund hall is situate in the parish of St. Peter's in the east, opposite to the east side of Queen's college, called so from one Edmund, a citizen of Oxford, the proprietor of the place. It was purchased by Queen's college, *anno* 1557, and converted to the purposes of learning.

Of this house were Lancelot Bulkley, archbishop of Dublin; William Fuller, bishop of Lincoln; John Prichet, bishop of Gloucester; Dr. Bates, the physician, author of the *Elenchus Motuum*, &c.

It makes one quadrangle; on the east side of which stands a very neat chapel and library, built some years since by the reverend Mr. Stephen Penton, principal.

St. Mary-hall is situate on the north side of Oriel college, in the parish of St. Mary. It has its name either from that church, which, with this hall, came to belong to Oriel

* This hall has lately been endowed, and, at the petition of its generous and pious benefactor and principal, has been erected into a college, by the name of Hereford college.

college, by a grant of King Edward the second, *anno* 1325, or from Oriel college, which was called heretofore St. Mary-hall.

Of this house were John Carpenter, bishop of Worcester; Sir Christopher Hatton, chancellor of England, and of this university; Sir Thomas More, chancellor of England, steward of this university, &c.

It consists of one quadrangle not very regular.

New-inn-hall or Trilleck-inn, is situate in the parish of St. Peter's in the Bailiff, in the north west part of the town. It was called Trilleck-inn from the proprietors of it, John Trilleck, bishop of Hereford, and Thomas his brother, bishop of Rochester. Afterwards the founder of New college bought it, and gave it to that college, *anno* 1392, and from that time it was called New-inn-hall.

Of this house was John Wilkins, who went from hence to Magdalen-hall, and John Twyne, antiquary.

The building is ancient and irregular.

St. Mary Magdalen-hall is situate near the gate of the college of that name, in the parish of St. Peter's in the east. It was built by William Wainfleet, bishop of Winchester, founder of Magdalen college, *anno* 1480, for a grammar-school. But there being room enough in it for academical students, especially after additions were made to the buildings, some members of the university took up their residence in it, and then a principal was placed there to govern them; and thus it still continues an academical society. It enjoys fifteen exhibitions.

Of this house were John Wilkins, bishop of Chester, besides three other bishops; Sir Edward Hyde, earl of Clarendon, lord high-chancellor of England, and chancellor of this university; Sir Robert Hyde, and Sir Matthew Hale, chief justices of England; Richard Field, dean of Gloucester, author of the book of the church; Samuel Daniel, the poet and the historian; William Pemble, and Walter Charlton, M. D.

As to the building of this hall, the front is the most considerable part of it. It has a pretty good library.

Thus I conclude my description of this famous, and I doubt not to say, unparalleled seat of learning, the university of Oxford; but I must acknowledge, that though I viewed the same with the utmost care and curiosity, I could never have pretended to give my countrymen so just and accurate account of all these particulars, had not my ingenious tutor, who was a member thereof, kindly imparted them to me in his own manuscript. And therefore, if I fall short in my description of its sister Cambridge, let it not be attributed so much to the want of good will to do justice to its name, as to the want of the same assistance.

CHAP. VI.—*Of the Situation, Antiquity, &c. of Cambridge.*

IN my description of the city and university of Cambridge, which is situated about fifty two miles from London, I shall be as brief as possible. Its name is no doubt derived from its situation on the banks of the Cam, which forms several islands on the west side, and divides the town into two parts, that are joined by a large stone bridge. It is so ancient, that it was well known in the time of the Romans by the name of the Camboritum, and is frequently mentioned in the oldest histories of Britain. It suffered much by the Danes, who kept a strong garrison here, till Edward the elder took it in 921, to awe the rebellious monks of Ely. William the conqueror built a castle here, of which the gate-house is still standing, it being the county-jail. The town, in his book

called Doomſday, was divided into ten wards, containing 387 houſes. After that king's death, Roger de Montgomery deſtroyed it with fire and ſword, to be revenged on King William Rufus, ſo that the univerſity was wholly abandoned; but King Henry I. to repair theſe damages, beſtowed many privileges upon it. He exempted it from the power of the ſheriff, and made it a corporation on the payment of one hundred marks yearly into the exchequer; which being the ſum the ſheriff uſed to pay before for the profits of the town, ſhews it was then a conſiderable town that could pay a ſum at that time equivalent at leaſt to 1000*l.* now for its privileges. He alſo ordered, that the merchants of the guild in Cambridge ſhould be free from all toll, paſſage, laſtage, pontage, and ſtallage, in all fairs of his dominions on this ſide and beyond the ſeas. In the barons wars the outlaws, who had taken refuge in the iſle of Ely, frequently plundered it, till Henry III. ſecured it by a deep ditch on the eaſt ſide of the town, which ſtill goes by the name of the King's-ditch. Wat Tyler and Jack Straw, in their rebellion againſt Richard II. entered the town, and burnt the univerſity records in the market-place. The Jews being encouraged to come over by King William I. and II. were very populous in this town for ſeveral generations. They inhabited all that part of it, now called the Jewry, and the round church is thought to have been their ſynagogue.

This town has had the honour of giving the title of earl to ſeveral of the royal family, and that of duke to his preſent majeſty when prince of Wales. It is governed by a mayor, high ſteward, recorder, and thirteen aldermen, of whom the mayor is one, twenty-four common-council-men, a town clerk, and other inferior officers. The mayor, at his entrance on his office on Michaelmas-day, takes an oath to maintain the liberties, privileges, and customs of the univerſity. It has fourteen pariſh-churches, but is a dirty ill-built place, and in a very indifferent ſituation.

Its greateſt glory is its univerſity, which for antiquities, gracious privileges, beautiful colleges, good diſcipline, number of ſtudents, plentiful revenues, and all other neceſſaries for advancement of learning, may challenge equality with any other in Chriſtendom. When it was firſt inſtituted, let others determine. Thus much is certain, that, like Oxford, it afforded the ſcholars at firſt no publick reception, or place of ſtudies, ſo that they were obliged to take up with ſuch lodgings in the town as they could get. But ſo mean was the accommodation they met with, and ſo frequent were the commotions occaſioned by the inſolence of the townſmen, that ſeveral pious charitable perſons began to erect inns and hotels for the reception of the ſcholars, in order to give them an opportunity of retirement, and an independence upon the town. But ſtill they lived upon their own eſtates, enjoying only the convenience of lodgings, without any manner of endowments; till in the reign of Edward I. they began to build colleges, not only for the reception, but alſo for the maintenance of certain numbers of ſcholars, according to the revenues aſſigned for that purpoſe. The order and time of their foundation, with their reſpective founders, are as follows, viz.

Colleges and Halls.	Founders.	Years.	Fellows.	Schols.
Peter Houſe - -	Hugh Balſhum - -	1284	22	42
Clare Hall - -	Richard Badew - -	1340	18	63
Pembroke Hall - -	Counteſs of Pembroke - -	1347	5	13
<i>Corpus Chriſti</i> , or Ben- net's College - }	Society of Friars in <i>Corpus Chriſti</i> - }	1347	12	40
Trinity Hall - -	William Bateman - -	1350	12	14
Gonvil and Caius College	Edmund de Gonvil and John Caius	1348	26	74
King's College -	King Henry VI. -	1441	50	20

Colleges and Halls.	Founders.	Years.	Fellows.	Schol ^s .
Queen's College -	Queen Margaret of Anjou -	1448	19	44
Catherine Hall -	Richard Woodlarke -	1475	6	30
Jesus College -	John Alcocke, L. L. D. -	1497	16	31
Christ's College -	Margaret countess of Richmond, } mother to Henry VII. - }	1505	15	50
St. John's College -		1524	54	100
Magdalen College -	Thomas Studley -	1542	13	30
Trinity College -	King Henry VIII. -	1546	65	91
Emanuel College -	Sir Walter Mildmay -	1584	14	60
Sidney Suffex College -	Frances Sidney, countess of Suffex -	1593	12	28

Total sixteen, viz. 12 colleges, 4 halls. | These, with the additional benefactions since } 406 660
their foundation, contain - }

The whole body of the university, commonly about fifteen hundred, enjoys very great privileges, granted by several British kings; but it was King James I. who impowered it to send two members to parliament. It is governed, 1. By a chancellor, always some nobleman, who is not so *durante vita*, as that of Oxford, but may be changed every three years, or continued longer by the tacit consent of the university. He has under him a commissary for holding a court of record of civil causes for all privileged persons and scholars below the degree of master of arts, where all causes are tried and determined by the civil and statute laws, and by the customs of the university. 2. A high steward, chose by the senate, and holding his place by patent from the university. 3. The vice-chancellor, who is the head of some college or hall, and chose annually the third of November, by the body of the university, the heads of the colleges naming two persons. 4. Two proctors, chose every year, as at Oxford, according to the cycle of colleges and halls; as are also two taxers, who, with the proctors, regulate the weights and measures, as clerks of the market. There are besides these a register or keeper of the archives of the university, three esquire beadles, one yeoman beadle, and a library keeper. It is to be observed, that the halls at Cambridge are endowed and privileged as the colleges, and differ only in name.

This university, as well as its sister Oxford, has its publick schools and libraries, that are peculiar to each college, and most of them are well stored with books, especially Trinity and St. John's, but it falls far short of those of Oxford in the number of books, as well as the stateliness of buildings, and other ornaments. The publick schools are built in form of a square, with brick and rough stone. The university library had a noble augmentation made to it of thirty thousand volumes (the books of Dr. Moor, bishop of Ely) a present from the late King George I. who gave 7,000*l.* for them in the year 1715.

In 1724, his late majesty was also pleased to establish a professor of modern history and modern languages, in this university as well as that at Oxford, with a salary of 400*l. per annum* for himself and two persons under him, qualified to instruct in that branch. Also Dr. Woodward, a professor at Gresham-college, London, who died in April 1728, left a sum of money to this university for erecting a professorship of natural philosophy, with a provision for it of 150*l.* a year for ever. He also left his collection of fossils and other natural curiosities to the university, with a part of his library which related to those subjects. Dr. Addenbroke also left it 4,000*l.* towards building and furnishing an hospital at Cambridge, for the cure of poor diseased people *gratis*; of which charity the master and fellows of Catherine-Hall are the trustees. There are charity-schools in the town for teaching above three hundred children (of whom fifty are cloathed)

cloathed) which are maintained by subscription to the amount of 230*l.* a year, by an estate of 30*l.* a year left them for ever by Mr. Wortes, and by the sacrament-money given by some of the colleges, which have each their chapel for worship, though the publick sermons are preached at St. Mary's church.

The most remarkable structures in Cambridge are, 1. King's College chapel, which for contrivance and extent is looked upon to be one of the finest in the world, and strikes the beholders with awe and veneration. The room is three hundred and four feet long, seventy-three broad, and ninety-four high to the battlements, without one pillar to support it. Its choir was adorned by King Henry VIII. with the finest carved work that ever was seen, and the glass-painting in the windows is most beautiful and graceful. The intire building, roof and all, is of free-stone, and the crown, crest, and other *regalia* of the house of Lancaster, curiously cut in stone in several places, are no small ornament to the whole. 2. Trinity-college and library, designed by the learned Dr. Isaac Barrow; a noble room, built also of free-stone, and supported by two rows of pillars, which for beauty and design, considering the bigness of it, is hardly to be matched in the three kingdoms. It should not pass unobserved, that as all the libraries in Oxford are studying libraries, those at Cambridge (except that at King's College) are lending libraries; because any person qualified may borrow out of them whatever book he wants. King Henry IV. granted this university a power to print within itself all books of any kind, a privilege which Oxford then had not.

CHAP. VII.—*Of the Government of England.*

THE Laws of England being the foundation of its government, that by which a king ought to rule, and which the people ought to submit to, shall make the subject of this chapter.

I begin with the common-law, that is, the common customs of the nation, which in process of time have obtained the force of laws. It is a summary of the laws of the Saxons and Danes, to which William the conqueror having added some of the good customs of Normandy, he caused them all to be written in his own Norman dialect, and so they have continued hitherto.

Besides the common-law, they have the statute-law, that is, the laws made from time to time, by king and parliament, as occasion requires, and where the common-law is deficient, or thought to be so.

The martial-law, which concerns only soldiers and mariners, in time of actual war.

The forest-law, concerning forests. By which the will is reputed for the fact; so that a man, found hunting of a deer, may be arrested, as if he had taken it.

The civil-law, made use of particularly in the court of admiralty, in the two universities, in all spiritual courts, in the earl marshal's court, and treaties with foreign princes. This is the law of nations, looked upon as the product of the common reason of mankind, and made use of where common and statute-law takes no cognizance.

The laws of Rhodes and Oleron, concerning maritime affairs, have been long since incorporated into the volumes of the civil-law. Rhodes is an island in the Mediterranean, not far from Anatolia, and now belonging to the Turks; whose ancient inhabitants being great traders at sea, made such regulations in all maritime concerns, that the very Romans, who excelled in making good laws, left their sea-affairs, and referred all debates and differences of that kind, to the judgment of the Rhodian laws. Oleron is an island of Aquitaine, not far from Rochelle; where Richard I. caused such excellent laws to be made, relating to sea-affairs, that they were almost in as great repute, in these western parts of Europe, as the Rhodian laws were in the Mediterranean.

The canon-law, which takes place in things relating merely to religion, is so called from such canons (or rules) of general councils, and of English synods, &c. as are received by the church of England. By which she proceeds in the exercise of her jurisdiction, so far as the said canons are consonant to holy writ, and not repugnant to the laws of the land.

But there are other laws, called municipal or bye-laws, proper to corporations, such as the magistrates of a town or city may make, by virtue of the king's charter, for the benefit of their corporation, provided they be not repugnant to the laws of the land.

By the laws of England, the English are a free people, because no law can be made or abrogated without their consent by their representatives in parliament; so that their subjection to laws is not forced, but voluntary.

By the same laws, no English subject ought to be imprisoned without cause shewn; nor may he be denied a writ of habeas corpus, if desired, to bring him speedily to his trial; and if upon an habeas corpus no cause of imprisonment be alledged, the prisoner must be set at liberty.

No racks are used to force a confession of guilt from the prisoner; and nothing but clear evidence, upon oath, can bring him in guilty.

None can be tried but by a jury of his peers, nor condemned but by the laws of the land, or by an act of parliament; nor ought any to be fined for any offence, but according to the merit of it.

No taxes, loans, or benevolences can be imposed upon English subjects, but with their own consent by their representatives in parliament. Nor is any one to be pressed for a soldier, but who is a vagabond.

In time of peace, or in time of war (unless upon an invasion), no soldiers can be quartered in the house of a private housekeeper against his will, though they pay for their quarters.

When an estate is not intailed, the father may leave it to what child he pleases, or give it away from his children. This keeps them in awe, and within the bounds of filial obedience.

A son at the age of fourteen, his father being dead, may chuse his guardian, consent to marriage, and by will dispose of goods and chattels. At twenty-one he is of age, and then free to pass contracts.

A daughter may consent to marriage at seven years of age, and at twelve may retract. If she confirms it, then the marriage is good.

The polity or government of England is a limited monarchy, such as secures the people's liberty under the grandeur of a king; a monarchy without slavery; a great king, and yet a free people. It is an instrument of three strings, which being well sorted, yields an admirable harmony, to the benefit and glory of the kingdom. A mixed government of monarchy in the king, aristocracy in the lords, and democracy in the commons. Here the king makes the figure of a great monarch, the lords keep up their state, and the commons their liberty.

The king has all the ensigns of royalty, as the crown, sceptre, purple robe, golden robe, and holy unction. At his accession to the crown, he is proclaimed with great solemnity; and his coronation performed with great pomp and magnificence.

He has likewise all the marks of sovereignty, as the power of making treaties and leagues with foreign states, of making peace or war, of sending and receiving ambassadors, creating of magistrates; of calling, adjourning, proroguing, and dissolving the parliament; of conferring titles of honour, coining, pardoning of criminals, &c.

To make war, the king may raise men and arms both for sea and land, press seamen and ships for the sea service, and vagabonds for either. He has alone the choice and nomination

nomination of the superior officers, the principal direction and command of his armies, of all magazines and ammunition, castles, forts, ports, havens, and ships of war. The militia is likewise wholly at his command, and the publick monies at his disposal.

Without his royal assent, no bill in parliament can pass into a law. And he may increase the number of peers, by creating more barons, or calling to their house whom he thinks fit by writ.

All privy-councillors, officers of state, and judges are nominated by him. None but the king has the sovereign power in the administration of justice; and no subject has here, as in some other nations, high, mean, or low jurisdiction. The king only is judge in his own cause, though he deliver his judgment by the mouth of the judges.

In point of punishments, he may either pardon the offence, or alleviate the punishment, after sentence given according to law.

The king is the supreme head of the church, as he is of the state, and is looked upon as her guardian and nursing father; so that there lies no appeal from him, as from some other states and kingdoms, either to the pope of Rome, or to the emperor.

At his coronation he is anointed with oil, as were the kings of Israel, to intimate that his person is sacred and spiritual; and has the dalmatica, and other priestly vestments put upon him.

As he is the lord paramount, or supreme landlord of all the lands in his dominions; so he has the supreme right of patronage in the church, called patronage paramount. So that if the mean patron, or the ordinary, or the metropolitan, present not in due time, the right of presentation comes to the king, who alone has the patronage of all bishopricks; for none can be chosen bishop, but whom he nominates in his *conge d'elire*. Nor can a bishop elect be consecrated, or take possession of the revenues of the bishoprick, without the king's special writ or assent.

Such is the honour and respect given him by his subjects, that they all stand bare, not only in his presence, but even in his absence, where he has a chair of state. All people at their first address kneel to him, and he is at all times served upon the knee.

But he cannot raise money upon his subjects, repeal laws, or make new ones, without his subjects concurrence in parliament. And by his coronation oath, he is bound to govern according to the laws of the kingdom, otherwise he may be deposed; of which you may read many examples in the foregoing history.

I come now to speak of the British parliament, in which the grand concerns of the whole British nation are to be debated. This is a high court, vested with a legislative power, and making two of the three estates of the realm, which three estates are the king, lords, and commons.

Accordingly this august assembly consists of two houses, the one called the house of lords, and the other the house of commons.

The house of lords seems constituted to support the rights of the crown; and the proper province of the house of commons is to stand for the preservation of the people's liberties.

The sitting of the parliament is appointed by royal proclamation, with the advice of the privy-council; and the time appointed for the parliament to meet ought (by the union act) to be no less than fifty days after the date of such proclamation.

Upon the proclamation, writs are issued by the lord chancellor, or lord keeper, to every lord spiritual and temporal, to appear at the time and place appointed, to give their advice on some weighty affairs. Also to all the sheriffs, commanding them to summon the people to elect as many knights, citizens, and burghesses in their respective counties, as are to sit in the house of commons.

As

As for Scotland, a writ is to be directed to the privy-council there, for summoning the sixteen peers, and for electing forty-five members, by whom Scotland is to be represented in the parliament of Great Britain.

As the time for the parliament sitting lies in the sovereign's breast, so does the place of meeting. Though the usual place is at the ancient palace of Westminster; the lords in a large room by themselves, and the commons in a larger, which was of old, St. Stephen's chapel.

At the opening of the parliament on the day prefixed, the king comes to the house of lords, in his royal robes, with the crown upon his head, and the sword of state borne before him. His majesty sits upon a chair of state, under a canopy, at the upper end of the room.

Then the temporal lords appear in their scarlet robes of state, every one according to his degree; and the spiritual lords in their episcopal habit, as they do all the sessions.

His majesty being come to the house of lords, commands the usher of the black rod to call the house of commons to the lords house. He is in a manner the messenger of the lords, and is so called from a black rod he carries in his hand. He sits without the bar of the house, and what peers the house thinks fit to commit, upon any trespass, are left to his custody. He has under him a deputy, a yeoman usher that waits at the door within, and a crier without.

The commons being come to the house of lords, stand without the bar. And the king commands them, by the lord chancellor, or lord keeper, to chuse one of their members for their speaker, and to present him such a day, that is, in a day or two.

The choice being made, it is a custom for the party chosen to decline the office, and pray the house to proceed to a new election. [This is a kind of *nolo episcopari*.] But he is commonly answered with a full consent of voices upon his name, upon which two of the principal members go to him, and lead him to the speaker's chair; where being set, they return to their places.

The house of commons does generally consist of the flower of the gentry, gentlemen of divers capacities, and most of them men of good estates, who have had the advantage of a liberal and genteel education. They are an aggregate body from all parts of Great Britain, and the house a noble school for young gentlemen that are of age to sit there. Five hundred fifty-eight is their full number, from the time of the union; but if three hundred are met, it is counted a pretty full house, many being absent upon business, or sickness, &c. However, forty make a house.

Here they sit promiscuously upon forms, except the speaker, who sits upon a chair in the middle of the room, with a table before him, the clerk of the house sitting near him at the table. Nor does any member wear a robe but the speaker, except the members for London, who at their first meeting appear in their scarlet robes.

Their time of sitting in parliament is in the forenoon, commonly from nine of the clock till one; but, upon urgent occasions, they sometimes sit very late, and do business by candle-light.

Before the parliament enters upon any business, the members of both houses must take the oaths appointed by act of parliament in the first year of William and Mary. They are also to make a solemn declaration against the doctrine of transubstantiation, the invocation and adoration of saints, and the sacrifice of the mass; by which declaration all papists are unqualified to sit in parliament: and they are moreover to abjure the pretended Prince of Wales, before they can be admitted to sit in either house; which oath, appointed by the last parliament of the late King William, was the last bill he signed, not above twelve hours before his death.

Though every member of the house of commons be chosen to serve for one particular county, city, or borough, yet he serves for the whole kingdom, and his voice is equal to any other. He may consent or dissent, as he thinks fit, without consulting his principals; which the states-general of the United Provinces are obliged to do in many cases. However, it is his duty to promote to his utmost the good of his country; but particularly that of the county, city, or borough by which he has been elected.

As each house has an undoubted privilege to adjourn themselves for some days, so the king may adjourn them, in order to a recess for some time; and then all bills already read and debated, in one or both houses, remain in *statu quo*, and at the next meeting may be brought to an issue.

It is otherwise with a prorogation, which puts an end to the session; for in this case all bills that passed either house, or both houses, and had not the royal assent, must begin a-new at the next meeting, before they can be brought to perfection.

Lastly, the parliament is said to be dissolved when the house of commons is disbanded, in order to a new election.

Formerly all members of parliament were free from suits, arrests, or imprisonments (except in case of treason or felony) not only during the sitting, but also forty days before, and forty days after the session: which privilege did likewise extend to their necessary servants, and the officers attending the house; but by an act passed in a late reign, the said privilege ceases immediately after the prorogation or dissolution of any parliament, till the prorogued parliament be re-assembled, or a new parliament meet. It ceases also immediately after any adjournment of both houses of parliament for above fourteen days, until both houses meet again: and upon the rising of the parliament, the plaintiff shall be at liberty to proceed to judgment and execution.

The lords spiritual and temporal, qualified to sit in the house, have this privilege, 'That if they cannot appear in parliament by reason of sickness, &c. they make their proxies to vote in their stead.' But then such lords as would make their proxies, must enter them in person at the beginning of every parliament.

While the parliament sits, all members of the house of commons are free from attendance on trials in inferior courts of judicature, from serving on juries, and the like.

It is a common saying, That a parliament can do any thing. It is true, the parliament of Great Britain can, with the royal assent, do any thing that is not repugnant to common justice. They may abrogate old laws and make new, settle the succession to the crown, define of doubtful rights whereof no law is made, appoint taxes, establish forms of religion, naturalize aliens, legitimate bastards, adjudge an infant (or minor) to be of full age, attain a man of treason after his death, condemn or acquit them who are upon their trial, give the most free pardons, restore in blood and name, &c. And the consent of the parliament is taken to be the consent of every Englishman.

But, how great soever be the power of king and parliament, yet they cannot restrain or confine future parliaments. *Quod leges posteriores priores contrarias abrogant*, is a maxim in the law of parliament: and a subsequent parliament has still a power to abrogate, suspend, qualify, explain, or make void the acts of the former in the whole, or any part thereof; notwithstanding any words of restraint, prohibition, or penalty in the former.

Next, after this supreme court of judicature, I proceed to the courts of justice sitting at Westminster, and opened four times a year, called the four terms, viz. Easter, Trinity, Michaelmas, and Hilary.

Easter-term begins the seventeenth day after Easter, and lasteth twenty-seven days: Trinity-term, the fifth day after Trinity-sunday, and lasteth twenty days: Michaelmas-term,

term, the 23d of October, and lasteth thirty-seven days: Hilary-term, the 23d of January, and lasteth twenty-one days.

The several courts sitting at Westminster are the courts of Chancery, King's-bench, and Common-pleas; and these two, viz. the court of Exchequer, and that of the duchy of Lancaster, which determine controversies concerning the revenues of the crown.

The principal are the high court of Chancery and the court of King's-bench, both sitting at the upper end of Westminster-hall; the last being a court of justice, that observes nothing but the strict letter of the law; and the first a court of mercy, in which causes are tried, not according to the strictness of the law, but by the rules of equity.

And as the King's-bench is a court in which the pleas are argued between the king and subject, so in the court of Common-pleas are debated the usual pleas of right and wrong in matters of debt between subject and subject.

But notwithstanding these courts are kept at Westminster, and every subject may be brought thither at any of the terms above-mentioned, by special writ issued from the respective courts; yet there are assizes or courts kept twice a year in every county of England, for the ease of the people in the distribution of justice; the twelve judges going for that purpose, by commission from the king, to do justice all over England: and this is called going the circuit. And England is divided into six circuits, viz. Home circuit, containing Essex, Hertford, Suffex, Surrey, Kent; Norfolk Circuit, Buckingham, Bedford, Huntington, Cambridge, Norfolk, Suffolk; Midland circuit, Warwick, Leicester, Derby, Nottingham, Lincoln, Rutland, Northampton; Oxford circuit, Berks, Oxford, Gloucester, Monmouth, Hereford, Salop, Stafford, Worcester; Western circuit, Southampton, Wilts, Dorset, Somerset, Cornwall, Devon; Northern circuit, York, Durham, Northumberland, Cumberland, Westmoreland, and Lancaster.

The courts thus kept by these itinerant judges are called the assizes, in which they judge both civil and criminal causes. Which assizes are distinguished into Lent and Summer assizes, the first falling out presently after Hilary term, the last after Trinity term. They are usually held at the county-town, and that with great attendance and feasting of the judges and country gentlemen and ladies, who upon these occasions endeavour to shew how much they esteem liberty and the security of their property under good and wholesome laws and just judges, by endeavouring to excel each other in their own degree of life in a gay but genteel appearance, and sumptuous but frugal hospitality.

When the judges are coming into a county, the sheriff thereof is bound to attend in person, with the under-officers, clerks, stewards of courts, bailiffs of hundreds, constables, jailors, &c. all riding on horseback. If the sheriff cannot come himself, he must send one in his place, to be allowed of by the judges. The justices of peace in that county are also to attend. And if either the sheriff or they fail therein, they may be fined at the discretion of the judges.

It is observable that in each county all causes grown to an issue in the courts at Westminster, are commonly determined here in two or three days. Which is done, not by sole arbitrament of the judges, (as with us, and in other arbitrary governments) but by a jury of twelve men.

This jury is chosen by the sheriff of the county, and only directed in point of law by the judges. For every trial by assize (whether the action be civil or criminal, publick or private, personal or real) is referred for the fact to a jury, as in most courts of the common-law; and as they find it, so passeth judgment.

By a commission of Oyer and Terminer, directed to the judges and others of the best account in their circuits, they are impowered to judge of treasons, murders, felonies, and misdemeanours. And, by a commission of jail-delivery, directed only to themselves and the clerk of the assize associate, they are to try every prisoner for the offence he stands committed for.

The commitment is commonly made by some justice of the peace, who examines the fact upon oath; and, if the evidence be found plain against the malefactor, he sends him by a mittimus to the county-jail; where he is kept prisoner, till his case be brought before the justices of peace at the next quarter-sessions, or referred to the assizes.

The common officers appointed to seize upon malefactors, are called constables, and in some places headboroughs, or tythingmen.

Their office is to apprehend, upon information given, such as break the peace, and common malefactors, and to carry them before a justice of the peace. Upon a charge given him by a justice, or a warrant from him, he may seize one upon suspicion of a crime. If the justice see cause, he commits the party brought before him to jail. The constable being charged with him, delivers him up to the jailor's custody, with the justice's mittimus (or warrant) to the jailor. And the prisoner must lie there, till he comes to his trial: when he is either condemned, or acquitted by law.

A constable at London and Westminster has, for a badge of his authority, a long staff painted, with the king's arms; and sometimes a short one, which he keeps out of sight for a surprise. He may call his neighbours to his assistance; and, if they do not assist him, they may be fined.

In case of murder, there are three or four coroners in every county, except Cheshire, which has but two coroners; whose office is, upon suspicion of murder, to summon a jury, in order to inquire into the party's death, upon view of the body. Upon an indictment of murder, he is allowed 13s. 4d. out of the goods of the murderer.

This officer, by virtue of a writ in chancery, is chosen by the freeholders of the county. He may, by a writ, arrest the sheriff of the county. Formerly none could be a coroner, under the degree of a knight.

A degree below the assizes is the court of the quarter-sessions, kept four times a year in each county, by the justices of peace; who are a sort of magistrates, appointed by commission to keep the peace of the county they live in; to examine, and commit to prison, upon good evidence, all rioters, vagabonds, thieves, murderers, and almost all delinquents, and to see them brought forth in due time to their trial.

They are put in commission by the crown, which limits the number as the prince regent thinks fit; and among other powers granted by statute-law to these officers, this is none of the least beneficial to the subject's peace and security: That if one, being threatened by another, will swear before a justice of peace, that he thinks himself in danger of his life, from the threatening party, the justice has power to make him give security for his good behaviour during a year and a day, or commit him to jail.

As to their quarter-sessions, it is a court held quarterly, therefore called quarter-sessions: At which the grand inquest (or jury) of the county is summoned to appear, who are (upon oath) to inquire of publick offenders.

This jury, commonly called grand jury, consists of twenty-four men, some gentlemen of estates, and other substantial yeomen, chosen by the sheriff out of the whole county, to consider of all bills of indictment that shall be brought into court. The court being met, and bills brought into it, these are either found, or not found, that is, either allowed by the jury, or not, according to the evidence. If the bill be found, it is brought in *billa vera*; if not found, it is brought in *ignoramus*.

I shall

I shall now conclude with the trial of malefactors in England, the method whereof is very singular, and different from other nations.

The court being met, the prisoners are brought into court, one, two, or three at a time. The clerk commands one of them to the bar, and to hold up his hand. Then he charges him with his crime, and asks him, Whether he is guilty, or not guilty. If he answers guilty, his trial is over, and nothing left but the sentence to be pronounced against him. If he stands mute, and will not answer (which happens but seldom) his punishment is to be pressed to death.

But the usual way is to answer Not guilty, though the prisoner's guilt be never so apparent, and he has confessed the fact before his trial: For the law of England takes no notice of such confession, and the judges proceed only upon evidence, so that, unless the witnesses, who are upon their oaths, be positive and clear against the prisoner, the jury will acquit him.

The prisoner having pleaded Not guilty, the clerk asks him this question, Wilt thou be tried by God and the country? The answer is, Yes; and then the clerk tells him the crime he has been indicted for, that he has pleaded Not guilty to it; and that being asked how he would be tried, he has answered, By God and the country. Next, he shews him the jury, that represents the county, bids him take a view of them, and to speak if he has any thing to object against them, for that he stands upon life and death.

The jury consists of twelve men, at least. And if the prisoner be a foreigner, it is a party jury, half English, and half foreigners. If the prisoner makes them no exception against any of them, twelve are sworn to give in their verdict, after the trial is over.

Whereupon the crier calls in the evidence against the prisoner. The prisoner is free to make what defence he can, and, provided he keep within bounds, the judges freely hear what he can say for himself.

When the evidence is over, the judge directs the jury, and bids them discharge their conscience. If the case be plain, they agree upon the verdict, without going from the bar. But if the case requires a debate, they withdraw into a room, only with a copy of the indictment; where they are all locked in, without bread or drink, &c. till they are unanimously agreed on the verdict; and an officer without watches them. If any one of the jury should die in the mean time, the prisoner would be *ipso facto* acquitted.

The jury being agreed on the verdict, they send notice of it to the court, by the aforesaid officer, and pray to be heard. Then the prisoner is sent for again to the bar, and bidden to hold up his hand, and hear the verdict, which is in one word Guilty, or in two, Not guilty. Thus the prisoner is either condemned, or acquitted, for the verdict is unalterable.

If no evidence comes in against the prisoner, when brought to his trial, he is acquitted.

As to prisoners that stand not indicted, but were only sent to prison upon suspicion, they are proclaimed in this manner; "A. B. prisoner, stand here at the bar. If any man can say any thing against him, let him speak, for the prisoner stands at his deliverance." If, upon this, no evidence appears against him, he is acquitted; and this is called deliverance by proclamation.

To these courts I shall add those of sheriffs, mayors and aldermen, court-leets, court-barons, and courts of conscience: Also the court of admiralty, court-marshal, and the forest-courts.

A sheriff.

A sheriff is a magistrate, whose power reaches all over the county, except such cities and towns as are counties of themselves.

All sheriffs are appointed by the sovereign every year, some few cases excepted. First, the judges nominate six fit men of each county, and commonly gentlemen of good estates, out of which the king chooses whom he thinks fit. Formerly a sheriff served many years together, and now it is like that of a mayor, but a yearly office; except the sheriff of Westmoreland, whose office is hereditary by charter from king John, the earl of Thanet being now in possession of it.

The office of sheriff is both ministerial and judicial. As it is ministerial, he is to execute mandates, and all writs directed to him out of the king's court of justice. He is to impanel juries, to bring causes and malefactors to trial, and to see the sentences executed. In short, all execution of the law is by the sheriff, and suits beginning, and process being served, by him. It is also part of his office to collect all public fines, distresses, and amercements into the Exchequer, or where the king shall appoint; and to make such payments out of them, as his majesty shall command him to do. At the assizes he is to attend the itinerant judges, and guard them all the time they are in the county.

As his office is judicial, he keeps two several courts, one called the county-court, and the other the sheriff's-turn.

The first is held monthly by the sheriff or his deputy, in which he hears and determines civil causes of the county, under 40s. At the sheriff's-turn inquiry is made of all criminal offences against the common law, in which he is not restrained by statute-law. This court is held twice a year. But all peers of the realm, clergymen, and such as keep courts of their own, are exempted from its jurisdiction.

Lastly, all those officers commonly called bailiffs, and in the city of London, serjeants, are appointed by the sheriffs to serve writs, to distrain goods, and to summon the county-sessions and assizes.

A mayor's power reacheth over the corporation of which he is mayor. The mayor is the prime magistrate of a corporation, whether a city or town; and is chosen out of the body of aldermen, for one year only. In some places this magistrate is called by the name of bailiff.

The mayor, with his brethren the alderman, keep a court: And they, with the common-council, have a power to make bye-laws, for the better government of the city or corporation, provided they be not repugnant to the laws of the land.

Court-leets and court-barons are properly belonging to lords of manors, who appoint stewards to hold them in their names.

The first, otherwise called view of frank pledge, is a court of record, and the word leet signifies a law day.

To this court all are called to swear fidelity to the king, who live within the homage. Here inquiry is made of riots, blood-shed, and privy conspiracies, to which the oversight of measures has been added. And what offences are found, especially great ones, ought to be certified to the justices of assize. This court is kept twice a year.

A court-baron is incident to every manor, and is so called from the lord of the manor, who was anciently styled baron.

All the tenants belonging to the manor are summoned to this court, where part of them are sworn for a jury, which is called the homage, not the inquest. Here the stewards sits as judge, and directs the jury to inquire principally of copy-holders and free-holders deceased since the last court, and bring in their next heirs; also of any incroachment

encroachment or intrusion of any tenant. Here they make likewise orders and laws among themselves, with a penalty for transgressors, payable to the lord of the manor.

As for the courts of conscience, there are many settled by parliament in several parts of England, for the relief of poor people, that cannot spare money to go to law with their debtors, or to pay their creditors in the strictness of law. These courts are established for their relief, so far as to recover their debts, and pay their own upon easy terms, suitable to their circumstances. But then the debt must be under forty shillings.

From the courts aforesaid, most of them guided by the common law, I come now to a court, which is ruled by the civil law; I mean the court of admiralty, concerned in maritime affairs, whose judge is commonly a doctor of the civil law. See what is said of the laws of Rhodes and Oleron above.

The writs and degrees of this court run in the name of the lord high admiral, who has here his advocate and proctor, by whom all others are presented, and admitted by the judge.

Here is particularly a register and a marshal. The marshal attends the court, carrying a silver oar before the judge.

The court is held in the afternoon in the common-hall at Doctors-Commons.

The court-marshal judges of any suit concerning the arms of nobility, or gentry, and the earl marshal of England (or his deputy) is the proper judge thereof. For the earl marshal is vested with a power of ordering, judging, and determining all matters concerning arms, crests, supporters, cognizances, pedigrees, devices, and ensigns armorial; also of making and prescribing rules, ordinances, and decrees for granting, controuling, and regulation thereof, and the putting in execution the laws and ordinances relating thereunto.

This court is kept in the hall of the heralds office, and sometimes in the court of requests: Where any nobleman or gentleman, abused in point of honour or arms, may find relief.

The forest courts are established for the conservation of the king's forests, and preventing all abuses therein. To which end there are three courts, one called the justice of eyre's seat, another the swainmote, and the third is the court of attachment.

I come now to treat of the spiritual courts; and though it is now almost neglected I shall begin with the convocation, which is a general assembly of the clergy, to consult of church matters. The same is either national or provincial, that is, of the clergy of both provinces, or only of one; and never meets but in time of parliament.

'Tis like the parliament, divided into two houses, the upper and the lower. And all members thereof have, by statute, the same privileges for themselves and menial servants, as the members of parliament have.

The upper house, in the province of Canterbury, consists of twenty-two bishops. The archbishop is the president thereof, who sits in a chair at the upper end of the table, and the bishops on each side, all in their scarlet robes and hoods, the archbishop's hood being furred with ermine, and the bishops with minever.

The lower house consists of the deans and archdeacons, one proctor for every chapter, and two proctors for the inferior clergy of the diocese.

Henry the VIIth's chapel at Westminster is the usual meeting place for the province of Canterbury; and York the place for the province of York.

The first business of the lower house is to chuse a prolocutor or speaker; who being chosen, is presented to the upper house by two of the members; one of them making a speech.

speech in Latin, and the prolocutor elect, another. To which the archbishop answers in the same language, and approves the person in the name of all the bishops.

The matters debated by both houses are properly church and religious matters; first proposed in the upper, and then communicated to the lower house, the major vote prevailing in each house. But whatever is transacted there, can be of no force, without the concurrence of both houses of parliament, and the royal assent.

The executive power of ecclesiastical laws is lodged in several courts, provided for that purpose. Whose proper matters are ordinations, institution of clerks to benefices, celebration of Divine service, tithes, oblations, obventions, mortuaries, dilapidations, reparation of churches, matrimonial rights, divorces, general bastardy, probate of wills, administrations, pensions, procurations, commutation of penance, apostacy, simony, heresy, schism, blasphemy, fornications, adulteries, incests, &c.

The manner of trials in these courts differs from those at common law. The first step here is a citation, then a bill and answer. Next they proceed to proofs, witnesses and presumption, the matter being argued *pro* and *con*, and the canon and civil law quoted. Whereupon the judge's decisive sentence passeth without any jury, and then execution follows.

In criminal causes, the trial is by accusation, the accuser taking upon him to prove the crime. Or else by denunciation, when the church-wardens present upon common fame, and are not bound to prove, the crime being notorious, and it being presumed they do it without malice.

The archbishop of Canterbury has no less than three several courts, viz. the court of arches, the court of audience, and the court of peculiars.

The court of arches is so called from the arched church of St. Mary-le-Bow, where this court is wont to be held.

All appeals in church matters within the province aforesaid, are directed to this court, and all process of it runs in the name of the judge: who is called official of the court of arches, otherwise dean of the arches.

The advocates that plead in this court must be doctors of the civil law.

Both the judge and advocates wear scarlet robes, with hoods lined with taffety if they be of Oxford, or white minever fur, if of Cambridge, and round black velvet caps.

Here are also ten proctors to manage causes, who wear hoods lined with lamb-skin, if not graduates; but if graduates' hoods proper to their degree.

By the statutes of this court, all arguments made by the advocates, and petitions by the proctors, are in the Latin tongue.

The next court to that, and of equal authority with it, is the court of audience, whose original is thus: When the arch-bishop heard causes in his own palace, he would not finally determine them himself, but left to them to be discussed by certain men learned in the civil and canon law, hence called his auditors, till at last those causes were committed to one.

The prerogative court is that in which writs are proved, and all administrations taken, that belong to the archbishop by his prerogative; that is, where the deceased had goods of any considerable value out of the diocese wherein he died. That value is usually 5*l*. but in the diocese of London, 10*l*.

Upon any contest about such will or administration, the cause is properly debated and decided in this court, to which there belongs a judge. And his office, commonly called the prerogative office, is now kept in Dean's-court, near St. Paul's church-yard, where for a moderate fee one may have a copy of any will.

The archbishop of York has also such another court, which is called his exchequer, but far inferior to this, as to power and profit.

The court of peculiars is about certain parishes, that have jurisdiction within themselves for probate of wills, &c., and therefore exempt from the bishops' courts. The see of Canterbury has no less than fifty-seven such peculiars, it being an ancient privilege of that see, that where-ever any manor or advowson does belong to it, the parish becomes exempt from the ordinary, and is reputed peculiar.

I must not omit to speak here of the court of delegates, so called, as consisting of commoners delegated or appointed by royal commission, to sit upon an appeal to the king in the court of chancery.

But this is no standing court, the judges being appointed by the lord chancellor (or lord keeper) under the great seal of England, only *pro illa vice*. So that, upon every cause or business, there is a new commission and new judges, according to the nature of the cause. Sometimes bishops, common-law judges, noblemen, knights, and civilians; sometimes bishops, and sometimes civilians only.

In this court the citations and decrees run in the king's name; and here is a standing register. From hence there lies no appeal in common course, but the king may grant a commission of review, under the great seal.

Besides the courts aforesaid, every bishop has a court of his own, which is held in the cathedral of his diocese, and is called the consistory court. Over which he has a chancellor, who being learned in the civil and canon law, sits as judge. And, if his diocese be large, he has besides a commissary in some remote place, who judges certain causes limited to him by the bishop in his commission.

Lastly, every arch-deacon has his court, in which small differences arising within his jurisdiction are determined.

The dean and chapter of every cathedral or collegiate church have also a court, wherein they take cognizance of causes depending upon the said churches.

Having thus gone through the several forms of law, and the different courts of justice and good government in the English constitution, my present intention is to write of the punishments inflicted upon offenders by these different courts. Where let me premise, that as the use of racks, to extort confession from the mouth of delinquents, is banished from England, so the capital punishment of breaking upon the wheel, used in most countries of Europe, or impaling the criminal, frequent among the Turks, are looked upon here as too cruel and barbarous for christians to use.

'Tis true, the punishment of traitors against the king had a face of cruelty, when their entrails were pulled out of their bellies, and burnt before their faces, before they were quite dead. But of late years no traitor has been cut down alive.

For such as stand mute at their trial, and refuse to answer guilty, or not guilty, pressing to death is the proper punishment. Then the prisoner is laid in a low dark room in the prison, all naked but his privy members, his back upon the bare ground, his arms and legs stretched with cords, and fastened to the several quarters of the room. This done, he has a great weight of iron and stone laid upon him. His diet, till he die, is only three morsels of barley bread without drink the next day; and if he lives beyond it, he has nothing daily, but as much foul water out of the next channel or ditch as he can drink at three several times, and that without any bread. Which grievous death some resolute offenders have chosen, to save their estates to their children: Because upon conviction, and the juries' verdict, the criminals' estates, if not otherwise settled or entailed, are forfeited to the crown.

The most usual punishment in England for capital crimes is hanging : in order to which, the condemned prisoner is conveyed in a cart from the prison to the place of execution, and hanged till he is dead ; being met at the gallows by a clergyman, to prepare him for death. But in case of robbery and murder, the malefactor is hanged in chains, in *terrorem*, till his body be wasted, or devoured by the fowls of the air.

Though counterfeiting and clipping the coin be high treason, yet offenders therein are only hanged ; but they are drawn, as traitors, on a sledge to the place of execution ; and if women, they are burnt alive : for burning alive is what the law inflicts upon women guilty of high or petty treason. But, instead of suffering the utmost rigour of the law, the criminal is usually strangled before the fire takes hold of her at the stake.

Beheading is only used for persons of quality, convicted of any capital crime ; the criminal's head being struck off with an axe, lying down upon a block.

A traitor's head is commonly exposed to public view, over a gate of the town.

The law of England includes all capital crimes in these three, viz. high-treason, petty-treason and felony.

The first is a crime of state, which consists in plotting, conspiring, or rising up in arms against the sovereign, and endeavouring to subvert the government. Counterfeiting and clipping the coin is also high-treason by law.

Petty-treason is, when a child kills his father, a servant his master or mistress, a wife her husband, or a clergyman his prelate. And

By felony are meant thefts, robberies, murders, &c.

Such punishments as are not capital, or do not reach death, are burning in the hand ; a punishment inflicted upon such as are found guilty of manslaughter, or chance-medley.

Manslaughter, in the sense of the law, is the unlawful killing of one without premeditated malice ; as, when two that formerly meant no harm to one another meet, and suddenly falling out the one kills the other.

Chance-medley, or manslaughter by mis-adventure, is the casual killing of a man, not altogether without the killer's fault, though without an evil intent ; for which the offender shall have his pardon of course, unless he were doing an unlawful act ; as when two are fighting together, a third man comes to part them, who is killed by one of the two.

Whipping, and transportation, are proper punishments for petty-larceny, or small theft, under the ancient value of twelve-pence. The transportation is into the West Indies for a term of years, during which they are used as slaves.

The pillory is properly used for cheats, perjurers, libellers, and blasphemers ; and the stocks for vagrant idle fellows, who can give no good account of themselves.

There are also pecuniary mulcts, called fines, inflicted upon some offenders, who must remain in prison till the same be paid.

In case of a premunire, and misprision (or concealing) of treason, the offender forfeits the profits of his lands during his life, and all his goods, besides imprisonment for life.

The spiritual courts have also their punishments ; some peculiar to the clergy, and some common to the clergy and laity.

Of the first sort is, 1. *Suspensio ab officio*, when a clergyman is for some scandalous offence suspended for a time from his office ; 2. *Suspensio à beneficio*, when he is for some

time

time deprived of the profits of his benefice; 3. *Deprivatio ab officio & beneficio*, whereby he loses both his office and benefice, which is commonly for some heinous or capital crime: then he is solemnly stripped by the bishop of his priestly habit, and delivered up to the civil power, to be punished as a layman.

I come now to the spiritual punishments, inflicted both upon the clergy and laity.

One is excommunication, or an exclusion from the church; which is of two sorts, *minor* and *major*, the lesser and the greater.

The first is an exclusion from the communion of the Lord's supper, upon contempt of the court; by which the party excommunicated is, by law, disabled from being a plaintiff in any suit.

The second is for enormous crimes, as heresy, incest, adultery: a person so excommunicated being disabled from being plaintiff or witness in any court, civil or ecclesiastical; and if he continue forty days excommunicated, without acknowledging and giving satisfaction for his offence, a writ comes against him out of Chancery, *de excommunicato capiendo*, to cast him into prison without bail, and there to lie till he has fully satisfied for his offence.

Another punishment is that called *anathema*, used only for obstinate hereticks; whereby the offender is declared a publick enemy of God, cursed, and delivered over to eternal damnation. This is done by the bishop himself, assisted by the dean and chapter, or twelve other grave and beneficed clergymen.

The third is a publick penance, when the delinquent is compelled to make a publick confession of his fault in the church. But, if the crime be not very notorious, the said penance may be commuted, at the delinquent's request, into a pecuniary mulct, for the poor of the parish, or some other pious use; provided this appears to be the more probable way to reclaim the offender.

CHAP. VIII.—Of the Religion and Morals of the English.

CHRISTIANITY did not flourish here till the reign of Lucius, a British king, and the first christian king, towards the end of the second age.

When the heathen Saxons came to be possessed of this island, and the natives forced to take shelter amongst the mountains of Wales, the christian faith fled with them, and this country was again darkened with heathenism; till, about the year 596, Austin the monk being sent by pope Gregory the Great to preach the gospel here, the work prospered so well by his diligence and zeal, that all the Saxons were by degrees converted to the christian faith, and Austin made the first archbishop of Canterbury, but with a subjection to the church of Rome. Thus the church of England continued subject to the Roman church till the reign of Henry VIII. who, being disgusted at the pope, re-assumed the power of the christian British kings, his ancient predecessors, and laid by that means the ground for a reformation; in which a great progress was made in the next reign; but queen Mary, succeeding next to her brother Edward, overthrew the reformation: but her sister, the famous queen Elizabeth, coming next upon the throne of England, re-established the reformed religion, in the year 1562. The doctrinal points, consisting of 39 articles, were confirmed by the queen and parliament: the substance of which take as follows:

1. The unity of the godhead, and trinity of persons, owned.
2. That the second person, the word made flesh, being in two distinct natures, and one undivided person, Christ, very God, and very man, suffered, was crucified, dead

and buried, a sacrifice to God for original and actual sin.

‘ 3. That he descended into hell.

‘ 4. That he rose again from death, and ascended into heaven, and shall return again to judge all men at the last day.

‘ 5. That the Holy Ghost proceedeth from the Father and the Son, of the same substance, majesty and glory, very and eternal God.

‘ 6. That the holy scripture containeth all things necessary to salvation, viz. these books, which are canonical, Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, Deuteronomy, Joshua, Judges, Ruth, 1 of Samuel, 2 of Samuel, 1 of Kings, 2 of Kings, 1 of Chronicles, 2 of Chronicles, 1 of Esdras, 2 of Esdras, Esther, Job, Psalms, Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, Canticles, four greater prophets, and twelve lesser prophets.

‘ The Apocryphal are to be read for example of life, and instruction of manners; viz. third and fourth of Esdras, Tobit, Judith, the rest of Esther, Wisdom, Ecclesiasticus, Baruch, Song of the three Children, history of Susannah, of Bell and Dragon, prayer of Manasses, first and second book of Maccabees.

‘ That all the books of the New Testament, as commonly received, are canonical.

‘ 7. That the Old Testament doth agree with the New, in offering eternal life by the mediatorship of Christ. That the old fathers looked farther than on transitory promises; and although the ceremonial and ritual law doth not still bind, yet the moral commandments do.

‘ 8. That the three creeds, viz. of the apostles, Nicene, and Athanasian, ought thoroughly to be believed, and may be warranted out of scripture.

‘ 9. That original sin is the corruption of every man’s nature, and a continual propensity to evil, deserving God’s wrath.

‘ 10. That we can do no good works without the grace of God, by Christ, preventing us.

‘ 11. That we are justified only for the merit of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ by faith, and not for our own works.

‘ 12. That good works, acceptable to God in Christ, do necessarily spring out of a true faith, which is known by them as a tree by its fruit.

‘ 13. That no works done before the grace of Christ, and inspiration of his Holy Spirit are good.

‘ 14. That the doctrine of supererogation (to wit, that there are good works which God hath not commanded) is false.

‘ 15. That Christ alone was without sin, and all of us offending in many things.

‘ 16. That after baptism and the Holy Ghost received, a man may fall into deadly sin, and by the grace of God may again rise, repent, amend, and be forgiven.

‘ 17. That some are predestinated of God to life eternal by Christ: such are called accordingly, and through grace obeying the call, are justified freely. That as the consideration of predestination is comfortable and beneficial to spiritual men, so it is of dangerous concern to carnal men. And that we must receive God’s promises as they are revealed, and acquiesce in his will as it is declared in holy writ.

‘ 18. That no man can be saved by living up to the rules of any law or sect, but only by the name of Jesus Christ.

‘ 19. That the visible church of Christ is a congregation of faithful men, in which the pure word of God is preached, and the sacraments duly administered; and that the church of Rome had erred in matters of faith, as some other ancient churches have done.

‘ 20. That the church hath power to decree rites and ceremonies, and authority in controversies of faith; yet cannot lawfully ordain any thing contrary to God’s word, or expound any one place of scripture repugnant to another, or inforce any thing to be believed for necessity of salvation, besides what is in holy writ.

‘ 21. That general councils are not to meet without the will of princes. That they may err, and sometimes have erred. Nor have they authority to ordain any thing as necessary to salvation, but out of the holy scripture.

‘ 22. That the Romish doctrines of purgatory, pardons, worship of images, relicks, and invocation of saints, cannot be warranted by scripture, but are rather repugnant to the word of God.

‘ 23. That no man ought to preach publickly, or administer the sacraments, unless he be lawfully called, and sent thereto by publick church authority.

‘ 24. That praying or administering the sacraments in an unknown tongue, is repugnant to the word of God, and the custom of the primitive church.

‘ 25. That sacraments ordained of Christ are not only badges or tokens of christianity, but rather sure witnessses, and effectual signs of grace and God’s good-will towards us. That the two sacraments ordained of Christ are baptism and the supper of the Lord; and that confirmation, penance, orders, matrimony, and extreme unction, are not gospel sacraments, having no visible sign or ceremony in the gospel. That the sacraments were not ordained to be gazed upon, or carried about in procession, but for a due use: and that they have a wholesome effect only upon worthy receivers, and a quite contrary to others.

‘ 26. That the unworthiness of ministers make none of Christ’s ordinances ineffectual to worthy receivers.

‘ 27. That baptism is a visible sign and seal of regeneration; and that the baptism of young children is most agreeable with the institution of Christ.

‘ 28. The sacrament of the Lord’s supper is, to worthy communicants, a partaking of the body and blood of Christ. That transubstantiation cannot be proved by holy writ, but is repugnant to it. That the body of Christ is given, taken, and eaten only after an heavenly and spiritual manner by faith; and that this sacrament was not by Christ’s ordinance reserved, carried about, lifted up, or worshipped.

‘ 29. That the wicked are not in this sacrament partakers of Christ; but rather to their condemnation do eat and drink the sign of so great a thing.

‘ 30. That the cup is not to be denied to the laity.

‘ 31. That the one oblation of Christ, as propitiation and satisfaction for sin, was finished upon the cross, and that the popish sacrifices of masses are blasphemous.

‘ 32. That the marriage of priests is not unlawful.

‘ 33. That the conversation of persons excommunicated is to be avoided.

‘ 34. That traditions and ceremonies are variable, according to the authority of every particular and national church.

‘ 35. That the second book of homilies contains that doctrine which is godly and wholesome.

‘ 36. That the book of consecration of archbishops and bishops, and ordaining of priests and deacons, set forth in the time of King Edward IV. is religious and godly; and that they who are consecrated and ordained according to the same rites, are rightly, orderly, and lawfully consecrated and ordained.

‘ 37. That the sovereign person in this realm, is chief governor in it, of all estates, in all causes ecclesiastical or civil, according to that only prerogative which we see to have been given always to all holy princes in holy scripture by God himself. That the bishop
of

of Rome hath no jurisdiction in England. That the laws of the realm may punish christians with death, for heinous offences. That it is lawful for christian men, at the command of the magistrates, to wear weapons, and serve in the wars.

‘ 38. That the goods of christians are not common, yet that almsgiving is every man’s duty, according to his ability.

‘ 39. That as vain and rash swearing is forbidden by Christ and his apostle St. James, so when the magistrate requires, a man may testify upon oath in a cause of faith and charity, so it be done in justice, judgment, and truth.’

By those articles, being the confession of faith of the church of England, and a summary of her doctrine, not only the episcopal government is retained, but also such rites and ceremonies as are appointed by the church, for decency’s sake, are allowable. Such as the use of the surplice, the bowing and kneeling before the altar, the sign of the cross at baptism, and a few others. But these extrinsecals proved such a stumbling-block to some of the reformed party, as made at least a rent in the church: who rather than comply with those ceremonies, separated themselves from the church, keeping her fundamentals, but renouncing both her discipline and rites. These were called Dissenters, or Nonconformists, Puritans or Separatists; some of them Presbyterians, some Independents, and others Anabaptists; all of them making a great party.

The most considerable are the Presbyterians, so called from their ecclesiastical government by presbyters, or elders. These come nearest in point of doctrine to the church of England.

The Independents, or Congregationalists, are so called, because each congregation amongst them governs itself independently from all others.

The Baptists or Anabaptists, from their re-baptizing as many as come into their communion, who were baptized in their infancy. For they are against pedo-baptism, or baptizing of children.

These sects however agree in fundamentals with all the protestant churches, but come nearest to the Calvinists. It is true, they use no liturgy, as the Calvinists do, but only extemporal prayers; the very Lord’s prayer being disused amongst them, which is not so amongst the Calvinists.

Besides these sects aforesaid, there is another particular sect, I mean those called Quakers, from their former way of quaking and groaning in their meetings, when they waited for the spirit. They are a sort of enthusiasts, that pretend to inspiration. It is true, they own the Trinity, and that the writers both of the Old and New Testament were inspired. But they reject all ministerial ordinances, use no sacrament, and pretend to a light within that leads them into the way of truth.

In civil matters they will have all men equal, and think all oaths unlawful. Therefore they only use yea or no, to affirm or deny a thing. They ridicule the civility of the hat, and their way is to thou all men without distinction, the prince as well as the cobbler. The plural number, when we speak to one, is to them a great solecism. And whereas most names of days and months are of pagan origin, they never name them but thus, as the day called Tuesday, the month called January. They affect plainness in their garb; but in the way of trade, in which they thrive prodigiously, they are as subtle as any.

I come now to the Roman Catholics, commonly called Papists, and by the law Popish Recusants. There are diverse laws in force against them, but seldom put in execution. If they could but keep within bounds, and behave themselves peaceably, they need not fear to be molested by so gentle a government.

CHAP. IX.—*Of the Genius, Temper, Virtues, Vices, Diet, and Diversions of the English.*

THE natives of England, taking them as they come out of the hands of heaven, or as nature formed them, are brave, generous, sincere, modest, lovers of freedom, averse to tyranny, devout, benevolent, compassionate, open-hearted, far from treachery or malice; their judgments are sound, and they bring arts and sciences to the greatest perfection: So that I must agree with Miffon, a native of France (who resided here, and was well acquainted with the several nations of Europe) who says of the English, that they are active, robust, courageous, thoughtful, devout, lovers of the liberal arts, and as capable of the sciences as any people in the world; and though they had their faults, he was satisfied from several years experience, that the more strangers were acquainted with the English, the more they would love and esteem them; concluding his account of them in a kind of rapture, viz. "What brave men do I know in England! What moderation! What generosity! What uprightness of heart! What piety and charity! There are in England persons that may be truly called accomplished; men who are wisdom and goodness itself; if we may say so much of any thing besides God. Peace and prosperity be eternally to England."

On the other hand it must be acknowledged, that the English are frequently passionate, melancholy, fickle, and unsteady, one moment applauding what they detest the next; and their good nature, for which they are so eminent, lays them open to a thousand misfortunes: they know not how to deny any thing they are pressed to do, though intirely against their judgment and inclinations: they are apt to look upon others as sincere and upright in their intentions as themselves, which makes them by no means a match for those that are thoroughly versed in the arts of tricking and evasion.

The nobility and gentry are too often instructed in their infancy, by those who have opportunities of making the first and most lasting impressions on them, that their blood distinguishes them from mortals of an inferior rank; that they are in a manner of another species, and consequently have a right to treat the lower class of men with contempt and insolence. And from some few instances of this kind foreigners have applied the same character to the English as is given of the Portuguese, viz. "That the nobility think themselves gods, and require a sort of adoration; that the gentry aspire to equal them; and the common people disdain to be thought inferior to either."

But the English nobility and gentry oftener miscarry through an excess of good-nature, than by their pride or vanity; which is the rock on which the Portuguese split.

In the bloom of youth they are usually brought up to town, replenished with every thing that can give delight to the sons of men. Here they meet with many of their own class ready to initiate them in every vice and folly of the age: and though they are naturally ever so well inclined, few have the resolution to resist the importunities of those who already make part of the *beau monde*. To these they resign their understandings, as well as virtue; wine, women, and play, alternately employ their time.

The merchants and principal tradesmen, the yeomanry and great farmers, are for the most part a fair, honest, and industrious people; and this part of the nation is certainly the happiest. Every man here, if he understood his true interest, would wish with the wise man in sacred writ, "That heaven would neither give him poverty nor riches." For what is there desirable in life that these men want? They have houses, horses, servants, &c. but no useless ones; none that are unprofitable to themselves or the commonwealth: their time is employed in merchandize, trade, husbandry, or manufactures,

that daily bring in an increase of wealth to the kingdom, as well as to their own families; they undergo no more labour or hardship than what is conducive to their healths, and to create them an appetite to their food; and they have time enough to recreate and refresh themselves when the business of the day is over.

But the clergy of the church of England seem to be the most unhappy men that ever were dedicated to the priesthood: they have a multitude of professed enemies, as papists, and dissenters of every denomination; they are hated and reviled by men of no principles, who are not a small tribe in that land of liberty; and they have scarce any respect paid them by the majority of their own communion, for reasons which I do not care to mention, though not all of them peculiar to the English parochial clergy.

I proceed now to take a view of the lower class of people; namely, inferior tradesmen and mechanicks, cottagers, labourers, and servants. There are few countries where these kind of men enjoy a greater share of freedom than they do here, yet too often behave themselves arrogantly and insolently towards their superiors. Many of them entertain a notion that the liberties and privileges of Englishmen entitle them to be saucy. In the city of London, and other populous trading towns, they generally get a good livelihood, eat and drink well, and on Sundays and holidays, when they are not engaged in business, appear very well clothed; and, in their own phrase, look upon themselves to be as good as the best, that is, deserve to be treated with respect.

Cottagers in the country are not altogether so insolent; they have such poor wages, and depend so entirely on the gentlemen and farmers, that they are ready to pay their masters the respect that is due to them.

As to menial servants, they are become the general plague of the nation, both in town and country; they are not to be corrected, or even spoke to, but they immediately threaten to leave their service, and are not ashamed to abuse those from whom they receive their bread, and perhaps lift up their hands against them.

The legislature has provided abundance of excellent laws for maintenance of the poor, and manufactures sufficient to employ them all; and yet, by indolent management, few nations are more burdened with them, there not being many countries where the poor are in a worse condition. And one great cause of their increase is, that a poor man, though he has constant work, does not earn more than four or five shillings a week (except in London, and some other great trading towns) which will barely purchase bread and cheese, and clothes for his family; so that if he falls sick or dies, his wife and children infallibly come to the parish for relief, who allow them a small pittance, or confine them in a workhouse, so as just to keep them from starving, which drives the greatest number rather to seek their bread by begging.

CHAP. XI.—*Of the English Way of Living, as to Lodging, Food, Raiment, and Fewel, Exercises and Recreations, Festivals and Fasting-days, and some particular Customs. Their Computation of Time.*

THEIR houses have lightsome staircases, lofty ceilings, closets in most rooms, and sash-windows as high as the ceiling; and though not gaudy, yet richly and commodiously furnished.

In point of diet, the English live most upon butcher's meat, as the most proper nourishment for this country; and roots and herbs are used only as a supplement. They are indeed great flesh-eaters, and that without kitchen sophistry; plain-boiled, roasted, or baked, being the general way of dressing it. French soups and kick-shaws, venison, fish, and fowl, are seldom eaten but by the better sort. In pastry-work, but chiefly venison.

venison-pasties, they excel all nations. Their variety of puddings, and on Christmas holy-days their rich plum-porridge, Christmas-pies, and brawn, are properly English dishes, hardly known to other nations.

It is not many years since a little bread served their turn, and some I have known who scarce did eat any.

Though malt-drink be their usual liquor, yet vast quantities of wines are consumed here, notwithstanding the dearness of them by reason of the duty: and wine is commonly drank here without water. Late in the afternoon, or evening, is the time usually assigned to take a chearful glass; though they have a generation of whetters, who go to the tavern before dinner, and whet away their stomachs.

In London they meet their acquaintance regularly almost every evening, drink a pint, or perhaps a bottle, to every man's share, and part in good time. The same method almost the gentlemen observe in the country, only instead of drinking at taverns, they visit one another in the afternoon at their own houses.

For fineness of colour, strength, and palatableness, they have beer and ale not inferior to wine; but rather too quick and malignant in their operation.

Formerly they used to eat three or four meals a day, and supper was the best meal: now a breakfast of coffee, tea, or chocolate, with bread and butter, a flesh dinner, and a spare supper, is the common practice.

Coffee and tea, two sober liquors, are of common use in England, and take off people very much from drinking of those distilled strong liquors, which are apt to confound and disorder the brain: but punch is much used, as well on land as by seafaring men.

The use of tobacco is very universal, and indeed not improper for so moist a climate.

For raiment, the common wear amongst the men is plain cloth and drugget, without any thing of costly ornament. But the fair sex spares for nothing to make the best appearance, the best able in the richest silks of 8 or 10/. a yard, with all the set-offs that art can possibly invent.

England is too temperate a country to use stoves, as in cold climates: a chimney-fire, of wood or pit-coals, is much better, and apt to chear up the sight.

From these necessary things to human life, I proceed to the English exercises and recreations.

I pass by such as are common with other nations, as hunting, hawking, fowling, fishing, shooting with bow and arrows, dancing, musick, stage-plays, &c.

Playing at mall, so frequent in France, is out of date in England; and playing at tennis, much disused.

But bowling is very much in vogue, for which there are bowling-greens kept very neat, peculiar to the English. And so is the recreation of paddock-courses, horse-races,*

* A sport of late years become universal: scarce a county in England but has its stated times and places for racing in spring and autumn, at which most of the gentlemen of the several counties respectively assemble. Those that are fond of this diversion are extremely nice in the breed of their horses, and have imported the horses of several countries in order to mend it. The gentry and nobility assemble at Newmarket in September and October annually, to partake of this diversion; when the king gives a plate to be run for: and I may venture to say, that there is not in Europe to be seen so many fine horses together as is met with on this occasion in the plains of Newmarket. Here the world seems to be very much upon the level, no-body wear swords, men of all degrees converse freely together, bet and lay wagers without ceremony. It is not uncommon to run for a thousand pounds at a time, and the bets frequently amount to many thousands. Here is a four-mile and six-mile course on a level heath of excellent turf, without hedge or tree to interrupt the sight, the last half mile of the course only being upon a gentle ascent. It is very entertaining

races, cock-fighting; and with the common people leaping, wrestling, bear-baiting, bull-baiting, prizes, cudgels,* foot-ball in frosty weather, and throwing at cocks about Shrovetide. Amongst which, the races shew the wonderful swiftness of English horses; cock-fighting, the courage of their cocks; bear and bull-baiting, that of their dogs; and prizes, the dexterity and courage of some men in the use of weapons.

The musical way of ringing the bells is also peculiar to the English, whence this island is called in French, *l'isle sonnante*, the ringing island.

I come now to give account of the English festival-days, particularly the holidays at Christmas, Easter, and Whitsuntide. The first continue in a manner from Christmas-day, December 25, to Twelfth-day, January 6, being days of entertainment among friends and relations, in which also the landlords feast their tenants. This is done with great profuseness, and not without immoderation. As for the holidays of Easter and Whitsuntide, they are each of three days continuance.

They have also publick days of rejoicing, upon a civil account: particularly his majesty's birth-day, proclamation day, and coronation-day, when the Tower guns go off, the bells ring, and the night is illuminated with candles and bonfires. The fifth of November, being gun-powder treason-day, is also a thanksgiving-day, for the wonderful deliverance of King James I. and the parliament then sitting, at the point of being blown up by popish conspirators, as it is recorded.

The city of London has a particular day of rejoicing, viz. the 29th of October, which they call lord mayor's shew; when the new lord mayor enters upon his office with the usual solemnity.

Those are the set days for publick rejoicings. But many societies and companies likewise have their feasting-days: and in private families, especially of the better sort, it is usual to celebrate their birth and wedding-days with their most intimate friends.

As to fasting-days, the Church of England has indeed appointed Lent, as a particular time of fasting and humiliation before God for their sins, but not to abstain from flesh all that time. A moderate diet, of any sort of food, is allowed. However, many members of the Church of England abstain from flesh on Wednesdays and Fridays in Lent. But Good-Friday particularly is observed with fasting, till the evening.

The 30th of January, being the day on which King Charles I. was put to death, is appointed by law to be devoutly observed with fasting, in detestation of that act, and to deter posterity from the like attempt. The 2d of September, being the day when the city of London was burnt, in the year 1666, has been yearly observed, as a fast ever since, by the citizens thereof; and the ministers of those churches that were burnt down, used a particular form of prayer on that day. To deprecate God's judgments, and implore his mercy, the sovereign appoints solemn fasts, when he thinks proper.

To speak of the particular customs of the English, I shall begin with Valentine's-Day, Feb. 14, when young men and maidens get their several names writ down upon scrolls

entertaining to see how these fine creatures stretch up this little hill with a swift but regular motion, while the whole field is laying wagers on one side or other, and endeavouring to get in to see the end of it; and so extremely well matched they often are, that the prize is carried but by the length of a horse, or perhaps by his head, the judges who are to decide it being placed at a proper station to take the nicest view.

* In cudgel-playing each party takes a stick as big as an ordinary cane, with a basket-hilt, or guard, to save his right hand, and endeavours to break his adversary's head; though he hits him a hundred blows on the body or legs, this is of no moment provided his head be safe; but the least blood drawn, or rasure of the skin about the head or face, carries the victory to him that occasioned it by his cudgel.

of paper rolled up, and lay them asunder, the men drawing the maidens' names, and these the mens'; upon which the men salute their chosen valentines, and present them with gloves, &c. This custom (which sometimes introduces a match) is grounded on the instinct of animals, which about this time of the year, feeling a new heat by the approach of the sun, begin to couple.

Upon March 1, being St. David's-Day, the patron of Wales, the Welch wear a leek on their hats, to perpetuate (as it is said) the memory of a signal victory they got of old on that day, when each soldier took up a leek, to know their friends from their foes. The common sort wear garden-leeks on that day, but the better sort wrought ones. The King himself wears one, to humour the people.

November 30, being St. Andrew's-Day, the patron of Scotland, the Scots wear a blue cross on the fore-part of their hats; and I am told that the king doth likewise.

As to the English computation of time, the natural day begins with them, as with us, at midnight; counting twelve hours from that time to noon, and twelve hours more, beginning at one of the clock, till the next midnight.

But the year begins with them properly on Lady-Day, March 25, being the conception-day of the blessed Virgin, and they date accordingly all publick writings; though they allow the year, by the cycles of the sun and moon, to begin January 1, and commonly call it New-Year's-Day. To distinguish therefore that mungrel time from the 1st of January, to the 25th of March, it is a common practice to set down both years in the date of letters thus, as before last Lady-Day, 1730-1.

Lastly, the English epoch is from the time of our Saviour's birth. But they keep the old (or Julian) stile; whereas we and all Roman, and some Protestant states, go by the new, otherwise called the Gregorian stile, from Pope Gregory XIII., who, above one hundred years since, undertook to correct the calendar, by the direction of Antonius Lilius, and other great mathematicians. By this new stile, or Gregorian account, we go now eleven days before them.

CHAP. XI.—*Of the vast Trade of England, both at Home and Abroad; and of the British Coins, Weights, and Measures.*

THE trade of England is carried on two ways, at home and abroad, in Britain and foreign countries.

At home, by land and water. By land, all provisions and commodities are conveyed in waggons, and upon pack-horses. By water, either by sea, or navigable rivers.

This vast transport of provisions and commodities, both by land and water, employs a world of waggoners, seamen, and watermen. And whereas London is in a manner the center of this trade, hence comes the great concourse there is of carts and waggons by land, of ships and lighters, &c. by water; by which means a vast number of porters are employed to unload and load the waggons, and to carry the parcels where they are directed.

As to the conveyance by water, one may judge of the vast number of ships, mariners, and watermen employed in England, by the sea-coal trade only; which takes up 500 great ships constantly, that sail to and from Newcastle almost all the year round, and whose seamen are counted the best in England: of which I have written more largely before.

But if the carriage only employs so many people both by sea and land, how great must be the number of such as are employed in manufactures, both in the city and country! London swarms with them, and there are many towns in the country full of manufacturers of several sorts.

The difference between the trade carried on at home and abroad lies in this, that the first makes money circulate, whereas the other is carried on chiefly by bartering of commodities.

If the home trade be so prodigious, and of so great benefit to the nation, it may reasonably be concluded that the foreign trade is far beyond it.

Not but that England may very well subsist without it; for she wants for nothing, but yields all things necessary for life, and might make good shift without the help of foreign countries. But as foreign trade is very useful to employ artists, to set the poor to work, and improve manufactures; so it is an effectual means to enrich the nation, to strengthen the state, and make it formidable to foreign powers. England therefore trades to all parts of the trading world, nor does any nation whatsoever drive such a trade as she does with her own commodities. This makes her strong in shipping, multiplies the number of her mariners, makes the nation rich, and procures her what the whole world can afford to gratify the fancy, or please the appetite. In short, it is by the foreign trade that Britain is become the support of her friends, and a terror to her enemies.

By navigation she makes of the ocean a bridge of communication with the remotest parts of the world. And whereas the Dutch trade does chiefly consist in the transportation of foreign commodities from one country to another, the English trade consists principally in exporting their own commodities.

Thus England trades with her own merchandise, not only all over Europe, but also in Asia, Africa, and America, and that by way of bartering. And though the English make a greater consumption of foreign commodities than any other nation, yet they keep not only the balance of trade even, by the excellency and quantity of their own commodities, but also come off great gainers by transporting what they cannot consume into other countries.

The principal commodities of the growth of England are her wool, of which vast quantities of cloth and stuffs are made, to the sum of two millions sterling *per annum*. Her tin, lead, copper, pit-coal, great guns, bombs, carcases, &c. for one million. Moreover, she exports abundance of corn, red-herrings, smoked pilchards, and salmon, fished upon her coast; besides abundance of leather and saffron. Many of her manufactures are also in great request, particularly her sattins, damask, velvet, plush, locks, pendulums, and watches, barometers, thermometers, spectacles, perspective-glasses, telescopes, microscopes, and all sorts of mathematical instruments, &c. great quantities of which are exported.

Besides the great consumption England makes of the products of her vast countries in the new world, particularly sugar, indigo, cocoa-nuts, tobacco, &c. she spares to the sum of half a million a year for other parts of Europe. Her trade with Ireland (by exporting her wool, beef, hides, tallow, butter, and fish) and the fishery in Newfoundland, are also very beneficial to her.

The foreign trade is regulated chiefly at London by several companies (or societies) of merchants, empowered by royal authority to make from time to time such regulations for the improvement of their respective trade, as they shall think convenient; of which I have spoken particularly in my description of London; so that I shall here only add, that by these companies the poor are set to work, many great ships are built, and a vast number of seamen employed.

For promoting the trade of Great Britain, and for inspecting and improving the British plantations in America, and elsewhere (there is a council of trade established, which is

is held at the Cockpit by Whitehall, by commission from the crown), to determine the many disputes that may arise therein.

Here also I shall add some short account of the British coin, weights and measures; without a knowledge of which, no trade can be properly carried on with that nation.

The British coin is of two metals, gold and silver. The gold is either a guinea, or half guinea; the first going for 21s. the half guinea proportionably. It is called a guinea from a country of that name in Africa, whence most of the gold is brought of which this coin was originally made in the reign of King Charles II.

The silver coin, now current in Great Britain, is of the best silver, called sterling, of which there are many species, viz. crowns, half-crowns, shillings, and six-pences, groats, three-pences, two-pences, and pennies; though the four last pieces are not very much in use. And there is abundance of copper farthings and halfpence, allowed to be coined for the convenience of small change; but no man is bound to receive them in pay for rent or debt.

The weights and measures are the same all over England, that is, according to the king's standard left in the exchequer.

The weights are of two sorts, one called troy weight, and the other avoirdupois; the first containing 12 ounces, and the other 16 in the pound. But then the ounce avoirdupois is lighter than the other by almost a twelfth part, 51 ounces of troy being equal to 56 of avoirdupois. But the avoirdupois pound is more than the troy pound, for 14 pound of that are equal to 17 pound troy.

By troy weight are weighed jewels, gold, silver, bread, corn, and liquors; and by the other, mercery and grocery wares, wool, metals, tallow, and the like, of which a hundred weight comes to 112 pounds, and half a hundred to 56 proportionably. In troy weight 24 grains of wheat make a penny-weight sterling, 20 penny-weights one ounce, and 12 ounces a pound.

The apothecaries and goldsmiths have the same pound, ounce, and grain; but they differ in their intermediate divisions. Among the first, a scruple $\mathfrak{s}$ is 20 grains, a drachm $\mathfrak{d}$ 3 scruples, an ounce $\mathfrak{z}$ 8 drachms, and a pound $\mathfrak{lb}$ 12 ounces. But though they make up their medicines by troy weight, they buy their drugs by avoirdupois.

Measures are either applicative, or receptive; that is, for things measured outwardly or inwardly.

Of the first sort, a yard consisteth of 3 feet, this of 12 inches; an ell being one yard and a quarter. A geometrical pace is reckoned at 5 feet, a fathom at 6, a rod, pole, or perch, at 16 feet and a half.

Now 40 rods make a furlong, and 8 furlongs an English mile. By a statute of King Henry VII., an English mile ought to be 1760 yards, or 5280 feet, that is, 280 feet more than the Italian mile.

An acre of land in England consists of 40 rods (or perches) in length, and 4 in breadth. A yard-land is commonly 30 acres, and an hide 100.

The receptive measure is either for liquid or dry things.

Of the first is the pint, of which 2 make a quart, 2 quarts a pottle, and 2 pottles a gallon. Now 8 gallons make a firkin of ale, and 9 a firkin of beer, 2 firkins a kilderkin, and 2 kilderkins a barrel. A barrel and a half of beer, being 54 gallons, makes a hoghead, 2 hogheads a butt, and 2 butts a tun.

Wine-measures are shorter than those of ale and beer, 4 gallons of these making 5 of wine-measure. A rundlet of wine holds 18 of these gallons, a tierce 42, a hoghead 63, a puncheon 84, a pipe or butt 126, a tun 252.

For

For dry things, such as corn or grain, the gallon is of a size between the wine and beer gallon; two of which make a peck, 4 pecks a bushel, 4 bushels a comb or curnock, 2 combs a quarter, 10 quarters a last or wey.

I shall conclude this chapter with a useful explication of some terms used, in the way of trade, for things sold by tale or weight.

1. By tale, as speaking of paper, a quire is 24 sheets, a ream 20 quires, and a bale 10 reams. Of parchment, 5 dozen of skins make a roll.

Of fish, a hundred of cod-fish, ling, haberdine, and the like, contains 124, and of herrings, 120. Twelve hundred go to one thousand, being a barrel, and 12 barrels to a last. Speaking of eels, a strike is 25, and a bind 10 strike, that is, 250 eels.

Of hides, 10 are a dicker, and 20 dickers a last. Speaking of gloves, a dicker is 10 pair.

Of furs, as fables, filches, martins, grays, minks, and jennets, 40 skins make a timber. Of other skins, 5 score go to the hundred.

2. By weight. Thus a ton is 20 hundred weight; except lead, of which a ton or fodder is but 19 hundred and a half.

A stone of beef at London is 8 pounds, but in the country most commonly 14. Horseracers likewise reckon 14 pounds to a stone. A stone of iron, shot, or wool, is also 14 pounds; and the double quantity of iron or shot is called a quarter. But a stone of sugar, cinnamon, nutmegs, pepper, or alum, is but 13 pounds and a half.

A firkin of butter is 56 pounds, of soap 60, and a barrel of either is 2 firkins.

In Essex a clove of butter or cheese is 8 pounds; and a wey, 31 cloves, or 256 pounds. But in Suffolk a wey is 42 cloves, or 336 pounds.

A clove of wool is 7 pounds; a stone of the same, 14; a tod, 28; a wey, 182; a sack, 364; a last, 4568.

A faggot of steel is 120 pounds; a burden of gad-steel, 180.

A barrel of gunpowder is 100 pounds, and a last of the same is 24 barrels.

A seam of glass is 24 stone, or 120 pounds, at 5 pounds the stone.

A truss of hay is 56 pounds, and a load 36 trusses.

CHAP. XII.—*Of the principal Ornaments and Curiosities of England.*

FRANCE may boast of her Versailles, Spain of her Escorial, Italy of an infinite number of magnificent palaces, and curious monuments of Roman antiquity; but England, on the other side, has the advantage of them in many things.

I begin with London, the greatest, most populous, and richest city in Europe, as appears by my description of it.

As to churches, setting aside St. Peter's at Rome, where shall one see finer cathedrals than St. Paul's, York, Salisbury, Durham, Winchester, Lincoln, and Gloucester? England has also many fine collegiate churches, particularly at Westminster, Rippon in Yorkshire, and Manchester in Lancashire. What can be neater than the parish churches of London, namely, St. Bride's, St. Andrew's Holborn, St. Clement's, St. Anne's, and St. James's, besides those of St. Paul Covent-garden, Christ-Church, St. George Ratcliff-highway, Christ Church Spitalfields, and several others? In the country there are also many fine parish-churches, as St. Nicholas at Newcastle in Northumberland, and that of Kendal in Westmoreland, more like cathedral than parochial churches.

For chapels, I shall only name Henry the Seventh's chapel at Westminster, the chapel of Windsor-castle, and that master-piece of work the king's chapel at Cambridge.



Engraved by George Cooke.

Stonehenge.

London: Published by Longman, Hurst, Bate & Orme, Paternoster Row, Jan. 1. 1839.

There are also a great many steeples of curious architecture, particularly those of St. Bride and Bow-church at London; Salisbury steeple, whose spire is the highest of any in England; those of St. Nicholas at Newcastle, and Grantham in Lincolnshire: which last is so lofty, and artificially built, that to any beholder it seems to stand awry, and ready to fall. In the county of Northampton, one can see twenty or thirty steeples at once.

And with all due respect and reverence to our own, what country in Europe can shew two such universities as Oxford and Cambridge, adorned with so many and richly endowed colleges, as I have described before? And, amongst the lawyers, where shall one see such colleges, as the inns of court at London.

As for public halls, there is no country like England. Witness Westminster-hall, a prodigy of art, the Middle-temple-hall, Lambeth-hall, Guildhall, and so many others belonging to the several companies of tradesmen, which standing in bye places, are like so many hidden palaces.

If we come to hospitals, few will be found more stately than those of Greenwich for decayed seamen, and Chelsea for superannuated soldiers; that of St. Thomas and Guy's in Southwark, and St. Bartholomew's in London, for the sick and lame; and Bedlam, the hospital for lunatics.

England must be praised also for the vast number and beauty of her stone bridges; particularly that of London on the Thames, where the sea flows and ebbs continually; Rochester bridge on the Medway; Bristol bridge on the Avon; and that of Burton upon Trent.

At Coventry, in the county of Warwick, is to be seen the finest cross perhaps in Europe, it being a piece of an extraordinary beauty.

The grandeur of the Kings of England in former ages is worth taking notice of: when they had in most counties a castle, or royal-house, with a park or forest to receive them in. At this very day the king has several palaces in the country, at Kensington, two miles from St. James's Westminster; at Hampton court, ten or eleven miles; and Windsor-castle, twenty miles, which are the most remarkable. But there are others inferior to those, at Richmond in Surrey, Winchester in Hampshire, another at Greenwich in Kent, &c. I pass by Newmarket house, built by King Charles II. only to lodge in at the time of horse-racing.

I proceed now to the country seats, belonging to the nobility and gentry of England; and I dare aver, there is no country in Europe so full of stately seats, considering its extent: witness, among others, Belvoir in Lincolnshire, Chatworth in Derbyshire, Boughton and Burleigh house in Northamptonshire, Petworth in Sussex, &c. But of all the counties of England, none is so full of them as Yorkshire, Cheshire, and Northamptonshire.

Amongst the curiosities of England, I reckon Salisbury-plain in Wiltshire, and that of Newmarket, upon the borders of Suffolk and Cambridgeshire. The first, being of a vast extent, feeds multitudes of sheep; and Newmarket-plain is noted for its usual horse-races, at Michaelmas.

On Salisbury-plain is to be seen that remarkable monument of antiquity, called the Stone-henge, in Latin *Mons Ambrosii*. It consists of three rows of prodigious stones, some of them twenty-eight feet high, and seven broad, with others laid across on the top, and framed into them. According to Camden, these stones are artificial, and were made upon the spot. He says, the ancients had the art of making stones with sand and a strong sort of lime. And that which makes it most probable, is the vast bigness of these

these stones, hardly capable of any land carriage; and that they stand upon a plain, which for some miles round scarce affords a stone, great or small.

Near Whitney, in Oxfordshire, is a trophy, called Roll-rich-stones, not much unlike the Stone-henge.

At Boskenna, in Cornwall, is to be seen another trophy, of 18 huge stones in a circle, at twelve feet distance from each other, with another stone in the center, overtopping them all. In Cleer parish, in the same county, there stand upon a plain six or eight stones of a prodigious bigness, but so artificially set together, that it is hard to find out their just number; and being told over again, they will be found either more or less than before. The main-Amber, near Mount's-Bay, is a main rock, which being mounted upon lesser rocks with a counterpoise, may be stirred, but not moved out of its place.

Near Salkeld in Cumberland is a trophy erected, vulgarly called Long-Meg and her Daughters, consisting of 77 stones, Long-Meg 15 above ground, and the rest but 10.

In Westmoreland, not far from the river Lowther, there is a row of pyramidical stones, 8 or 9 feet high, pitched directly in a row for a mile together, and placed at equal distances from each other.

Who would not be amazed to hear of a travelling hill? a thing averred by the most famous authors. This prodigy happened by an earthquake in Herefordshire, in the month of February 1574, when 26 acres of ground moved from their place with a roaring noise for the space of three days together. By which motion a steeple and several trees fell down, two highways were turned, the east part to the west and the west to the east, pasturage being left in the place of tillage, this in the place of pasturage. This hill is called Marsley-Hill: and worth the notice of any traveller.

At Badmington, in Wiltshire, there have been found nine caves all in a row, but of different dimensions, the least of them four feet wide, some nine or ten feet long, two long stones being set upon the sides, and the top covered with broad stones. Spurs, pieces of armour, and the like, have been found in these caves; which is a sufficient ground to believe, that they were tombs of some ancient heroes, Romans, Saxons, or Danes.

At Ryegate, in Surrey, are still to be seen the ruins of an ancient castle, with a long vault under ground, and a room at the end of it, where the barons met in council in their war against king John.

In Derbyshire is the Peak, famous for its lead-mines, quarries, and wonderful caves. These last are of a large extent, and apt to strike with horror all that come into them. There are three of these caves, one of them called Elden-hole, very spacious, but with a low and narrow entrance, the inside full of icicles, hanging down like so many tapers.

In Westmoreland, not far from the river Lowther, is a well or fountain, which (Euripus like) ebbs and flows many times in a day.

Near Oxen-hall, in the county of Durham, there are three pits, called Hell-kettles, occasioned (as it is said) by an earthquake. Tunstall, bishop of Durham, had the curiosity to throw a marked goose into one of these pits, which was found afterwards alive in the river Tees, three miles from the said pits.

Oundle, in Northamptonshire, is noted for its Drumming-wells, so called from a noise of drums coming now and then from thence, which is said to be ominous.

The city of Bath, in Somersetshire, is noted for its springs, of a wonderful virtue for the cure of many diseases, and amongst others the palsy, rheumatism, weakness of the nerves, and scrophulous diseases, &c. The waters are of a blueish colour, have a scent, and send forth thin vapours. There are four hot baths, with stone seats, for such as

use

use the waters ; one triangular, being twenty-five feet long, and as broad at one end ; the heat of it gentler than the rest, because it has fewer springs. This is called the Cross Bath, from a cross that formerly stood in it. Another is the Hot Bath, the hottest of all, when it was not so large as it now is. The other two are the King's and Queen's Bath, parted only by a wall ; the last having no spring in it, but receiving the water from the King's Bath, which is about 60 feet square, and has several hot springs in the middle of it, which make its heat greater. Each of these two baths has a pump for the use of embrocations. The ancient Romans had a great value for these waters, who had here a temple dedicated to Minerva, the goddess of fountains, in the very place where the cathedral now stands.

At Aileweston, in Huntingdonshire, there are two springs, one of fresh, and the other of brackish water ; the first good for dim eyes, the other for curing of scales and leprosy.

Wonderful is the virtue of Buxton-Wells in Derbyshire, in the cure of many diseases. Nine springs issue out of a rock, at a small distance from each other, eight of which are warm, and the ninth exceedingly cold. About 100 yards off is another hot spring, and near it a very cold one. Near Wirksworth, in the same county, there are also two springs, one warm, and the other cold ; but so near one another, that one may put one hand in the warm and the other in the cold at the same time. Kedleston-Well is said to be singular in the cure of ulcers, and even leprosy itself.

As for Quarndon-Springs near Derby, Tunbridge-Wells in Kent, Scarborough in Yorkshire, and Stanley-Wells in Gloucestershire, they are much of the same nature, strong of the mineral, and effectual in the operation.

At Lassington, near Gloucester, there are found certain stones, about the breadth of a silver-penny, and the thickness of a half-crown : they are flat, and five-pointed, like a star ; whence the name of astroits, or star-stones. They are of a greyish colour, and the flat sides of them naturally engraven in fine works. At Whitby in Yorkshire, it is said, there are to be found at the foot of some rocks stones naturally as round as a bullet ; which, being broken, stony serpents are found in them, but, for the most part, headless.

Gotham in Nottinghamshire yields a sort of rugged stone, but with such delicate veins, as exceed the beauty of marble. I have already observed, that Cornwall and Staffordshire have quarries of marble, and that alabaster is to be found in Lincolnshire ; but Cornwall particularly is of special note for its diamond-like stones, found in rocks, ready shaped, polished by nature, and wanting nothing but hardness to bear the price of diamonds. St. Vincent's Rock, near Bristol, is also noted for yielding plenty of crystal.

Lastly, though some countries may exceed or excel England in some things, yet it cannot be denied to be one of the most plentiful parts of Europe. As it is seated advantageously for trade, there is nothing in the world capable of transportation but may be had here, to gratify the fancy of some, and the curiosity of others.

Another thing England is happy in, is her being free from those dangerous and voracious beasts, such as wolves, bears, and wild boars, which are so pernicious in many regions of Europe. There are also but a few serpents, and other venomous creatures.

England has had wolves formerly ; but history tells us, that she was rid of them by the Welch, whose prince being tributary to Edgar, a Saxon king of England, to whom he paid a yearly tribute, Edgar changed that tribute into three thousand wolves' skins : upon which, the Welch grew so sharp in wolf-hunting, that they cleared England from those pernicious creatures ; so that the sheep keep the field day and night without any danger from wolves, unless it be from men-wolves, or sheep-stealers.

CHAP. XIII.—*Of the Seas, Harbours, Rivers, Fishery, four-footed Beasts, Fowls, Birds, and Minerals.*

THE seas, which almost encompass the kingdom, are the German sea, the English channel, and the Irish sea, or St. George's channel. Of these, that which washes the eastern shores, usually called the German Ocean, might be of infinite advantage to this kingdom. Here the Dutch laid the foundation of their greatness; and the fish taken here, even close to the British coasts, are still one of the greatest supports of their state; while the English, who are indeed the proprietors of these treasures, have indolently looked on an hundred and fifty years at least.

There is also in the German sea a cod-fishery on the Dogger-bank, a sand between Britain and Holland, where both the English and Dutch take great quantities of that kind of fish. And it is by this sea London, and many other great towns in England, and other parts of Europe, are supplied with sea-coal from Newcastle, without which they would find it difficult to subsist. This sea also furnishes oysters, lobsters, and almost all manner of shell-fish.

But as there are few tolerable harbours on the German side of this sea, so neither are there many on the English; and the coast being replenished with rocks and sands, renders it very dangerous in the winter season.

The next sea I shall mention is the English channel, which lies between Great-Britain and France, through which all ships pass and repass that are bound to or from the south or west. Here also, at some seasons of the year, are met with shoals of herrings and cod fish, and towards the west of England pilchards in great abundance, which are salted up and sent abroad. It also abounds with lobsters, oysters, and other shell-fish, and mackarel in the season. This sea is esteemed much safer than the former; and though there are scarce any good harbours on the French side, there are many commodious havens on the English coast.

The third and last sea is that lying between England and Ireland, called St. George's channel. This I do not take to be equal to the other in any respect; there is not that plenty of fish as in the former; the sea is tempestuous, and the coasts dangerous; nor is there a tenth part of the trade carried on through this sea as through the other.

The principal harbours in these seas are Newcastle in Northumberland, Hull in Yorkshire, Lynn and Yarmouth in Norfolk, Harwich in Essex, London, Rye in Sussex, Portsmouth and Southampton in Hampshire, Weymouth in Dorsetshire, Dartmouth and Plymouth in the south of Devonshire, Falmouth in Cornwall, Biddeford and Barnstaple on the north of Devonshire, Bristol in Somersetshire, and Liverpool in Lancashire. The ships belonging to the royal navy are built and laid up at Deptford, Woolwich, Sheerness, Chatham, Portsmouth, and Plymouth.

The principal rivers in England are generally divided into two ranks, in manner following:

Rivers of the first rank are,				Of the second,			
1. Thames,	{	{	{	1. Cam,	Running through {	Cambridge, N.E.	
2. Medway,				2. Ouse,		York, N. E.	
3. Severn,				2. Dee,		Chester, W.	
4. Humber,				4. Mersee,		Liverpool, W.	
5. Tine,				With several others smaller than these.			
6. Tweed,							

Concerning these rivers it is to be observed, 1. That the stream of the Thames is easy, its tide convenient, and its water wholesome; so that in long voyages this water purifies itself by fermentation, and then it is excellent to drink. In a word, such is the trade upon this river, and so beneficial to London, that as I was told, this city having refused a loan of a great sum of money to King James I. and the king resenting the refusal with so much indignation, that he threatened the lord-mayor and aldermen, not only to remove his court, but also his courts of judicature, and the records of the tower, the lord-mayor answered, 'Sir, it is the comfort of your loyal city of London, that your majesty will leave the Thames behind you.' 2. The Medway is a very deep river, and so is made use of to lay up the greatest men of war in winter-time, its entrance being now defended by a strong fort called Sheerness. 3. The Humber is a compound of several lesser rivers, viz. Trent, Ouse, Don, and Derwent, running into one channel.

This kingdom affords black cattle, sheep, horses, asses, and some mules; goats, red and fallow deer, hares, rabbits, dogs, foxes, squirrels, ferrets, weasels, lizards, otters, badgers, hedgehogs, cats, pole-cats, rats, mice, and moles.

The oxen are the largest and best that are to be met with any where. The Dutch, it is said, have larger cows, which being brought from the poor grounds in Denmark and the north of Germany, grow to a prodigious size in their rich meadows; but we no where meet with such large oxen, and consequently such large and good beef for victualling ships for long voyages, as we do in England. There is a lesser sort that are bred in Wales and the north, the flesh of which is as good to be spent in the house as the former.

The sheep are to be valued both for their fleeces and their flesh: those of Lincolnshire are vastly large; but the flesh of the small downs mutton is most admired, and the wool of both exceeds any in Europe. And as to the numbers of sheep in England, it is computed there are not less than twelve millions of fleeces shorn annually; which, at a medium of 3*s.* 4*d.* *per* fleece, amounts to two millions sterling, and when manufactured may be reckoned ten millions.

The horses for the saddle and chaise are beautiful creatures, about fifteen hands high, and extremely well proportioned; and their speed is such, that it is an ordinary thing to run twenty miles in less than an hour by five or six minutes.

The horses for draught, either for coach or waggon, are scarce any where to be paralleled. The Flemings indeed have some horses and mares that may exceed them a little in bulk; but then they are such heavy unwieldy creatures, that they are slow-paced: and the best use that can be made of the Flanders breed, is to draw a heavy coach the length of a street as slow as foot can fall.

These English coach and cart-horses make excellent saddle-horses also for the troopers in the army; I question whether there be better charging-horses in the world, if we consider their size, their activity, or fire.

Asses are propagated chiefly for their milk, which the physician prescribes in consumptions, and some other distempers. The flesh of the deer is excellent, and their skins are valuable. As to goats, there are but few of them, and those chiefly in the mountains of Wales.

There is a great variety of dogs, and those excellent in their kind. The hounds for buck, fox and hare, that hunt by the scent, are scarce any where to be matched: the greyhounds for their beauty and swiftness are admirable: both land and water-spaniels are very valuable: the setting-dog one would be tempted to think a reasonable creature: the mastiff guards the houses, and is not afraid to encounter an armed man if he

meets him, as he would a lion, a wolf, or any wild beast: the bull-dog has equal courage, but I must confess I do not admire him; he runs swiftly and silently upon the creature he attacks, and if he fastens, never quits his hold till he is choaked off, or his jaws wrenched open; his master's call and his cudgel are equally disregarded; if he was to be cut in pieces by inches, he would not come off till he was dead; his greatest enemy the bull meets him frequently with his horns before he can fasten, and tossing him up ten or fifteen yards into the air, gives him such a fall as he does not easily recover; but if the dog is able to crawl, he will move towards his enemy again; and he has so much generosity, that he always attacks him in the front, though he might do it to much greater advantage in flank or rear.

The tame fowls are turkeys, peacocks, common poultry, geese, swans, ducks, and tame pigeons. The wild are, bustards, wild geese, wild ducks, teal, widgeon, plover, pheasant, partridge, quail, snipe, wood-cock, heath-cock, grouse-wood pigeons, and dove-house pigeons, hawks of various kinds, blackbirds, thrushes, nightingales, bullfinch, goldfinch, linnets, larks, field-fares, lapwings, curlews, redshanks, heron, bittern, woodpeckers, jays, magpies, crows, rooks, ravens, cuckoos, owls, wrens, robin-red-breasts, redstarts, swallows and martins.

As to minerals here are the best tin mines in the world in Cornwall, which have been in great reputation ever since the island was discovered by the Greeks and Phœnicians.

Here are mines of lead, copper and iron, and perhaps some of silver, very good quarries of free-stone, and some of marble, or a stone equal to it. The allum and salt-pits in Cheshire are very considerable, and the fullers-earth, of singular use in the cloathing trade. Pit coal and sea coal abound in several counties, but the coal pits in the bishoprick of Durham, which are shipped at Newcastle in Northumberland, supply the city of London, and many other great towns as well in England as beyond sea, with that valuable fuel: for though it must be acknowledged, that wood is the neatest and sweetest kind of firing, yet coals are equally useful and much less dangerous.

The Conclusion.

THUS I have faithfully related the chief of my observations in this part of Great-Britain, called England; and which I shall conclude with this summary account of its advantages, defects, and interest.

First its advantages. It is a great, rich, and powerful kindom. 2. Separated by the sea from other countries, so that it cannot be attacked by other nations, but with great trouble and danger; and, on the contrary, the English may easily and probably with success attack other countries. 3. This island is very convenient for trade, being so situated upon a streight, that ships going either east or west are obliged to pass through it. 4. And besides a safe and deep coast, which is as it were an universal harbour, there are also many sea-ports and havens, artificial and natural; so that the English by their situation can extend their trade into all parts of the world, and if they be not sole masters of the trade, no other nation is able to dispute it with them but the Dutch. 5. Another thing contributes also very much to enrich England, viz. the raw silks they bring from other countries, and which they export when they are wrought and changed into stuffs; the same thing they observe about their wool, and even it is a capital crime to export it unwrought; for if the French or Dutch could have the English wool with ease, there is no doubt but they would export a great quantity, whereby great numbers of English families would be impoverished, who now live very handsomely; for as the French and Dutch journeymen have not so great wages, and are more diligent than the English,

English, it is certain that few people would buy from England, what they might have cheaper, and as good, and as fine, in France or Holland.

But there is another thing that renders England rich, viz. the liberty of conscience, granted and allowed to every nation, whereby great number of foreigners are invited to come and trade here sooner than in Spain and other countries, where liberty of conscience is not allowed. 2. No European country can boast of having such a good form of government. The property of chattels and goods being not precarious as in other countries; so that when a man by his industry gets an estate, his children if he please, and not his lord, shall inherit it. 3. Another thing which contributes very much to the enriching of England is, that it is forbidden to carry away above 10l. in specie. 4. No oak must be exported, which is very good for building of ships, as not being apt to split when cannon balls pierce it.

The defects of England may be thus reduced: One thing is very prejudicial to their trade, viz. that they eat a great quantity of meat, and are naturally too much addicted to ease; so that they are obliged to put on board their ships as many more men and provisions as the Dutch. 2. Though the English are very fond of money, and consequently easy to be bribed, yet they despise a moderate gain; whereas the Dutch, being content with a reasonable advantage, get more goods to be transported from one place to another, than the English. 3. The English are very much subject to some particular diseases, especially the rickets, the scurvy, and the consumption; the first incident to children, the scurvy to most people more or less, and the consumption to many; all of them proceeding chiefly from the constitution of the air, the rickets from its moistness, the scurvy from its saltness, and the consumption from its grossness, and from the too fast living of people, wherefore it is very common at London; for here the third of men and women die a sacrifice either to Bacchus or Venus. There is perhaps no country where rheums and coughs are more predominant, especially in the winter, which are often attended with ill consequences, if not timely prevented: agues and rheumatisms are also very rife, especially near the sea; but fevers and bloody-fluxes are not so frequent here as in hot countries. As they are also very prone to melancholy, they often dispatch themselves, and with the greater freedom, because the death of those suicides is not attended with all the shameful circumstances as in other countries. Lastly, law-suits are here a very common distemper, which by the great number of lawyers are often spun to a great length, to the prejudice of good neighbourhood, if not to the utter ruin of families.

The interest of England is to keep itself in *statu quo*, to enlarge the trade, and maintain the credit of the nation, and to retrieve it, if any ways diminished; to keep to a just balance betwixt the greatest powers of Europe, and in order thereto to lay aside (as King William said in his last speech to his parliament) those unhappy fatal animosities which divide and weaken England. Those divisions very often proceed from selfishness, but commonly from the diversity of religions, and the wild and petulant temper of the nation, naturally addicted to changes and revolutions, especially when they see or suspect that their liberties (whereof they are, and that not without good reason, extremely jealous) are like to be infringed. For when the king is courageous, wise, and moderate, when he maintains the laws, makes himself easy to his subjects, by excluding from the ministry hot, selfish, and turbulent men, and when he lives in good union with his parliament, then the best part of his people think nothing too much by way of gratitude; but when the king tramples upon the laws, aims at arbitrary power, lets himself be governed by violent and unexperienced men, by favourites, who are for extremes, and oppress the people to enrich themselves with their spoil, then it is no matter of

amazement if the prince loseth the love of his subjects, which is his greatest treasure, and if they bestir themselves in defence of their liberty ; for it is an invaluable treasure, and who can blame them for being jealous of it ?

CHAP. XIV.—*Contains a short Description of that Part of Great-Britain called Scotland.*

SCOTLAND, once the continual vexation of the crown of England, and the inlet of foreign powers on the British isle, is now become a mere province, though it shares the title of a kingdom in the stile of the British monarch ; by which means trade is here reduced to a very low ebb, and its commerce with foreign nations seems, as it were, interdicted or totally excluded by its new governors the English, in proportion to its extent.

For these reasons I was dissuaded from making its tour, as a fruitless journey ; and contented myself with such a description thereof as I could collect from the discourse of several reputable natives, who bewailed its servitude and confessed its poverty ; and especially from my ingenious tutor ; which I have cast into the following method.

Scotland is the famous ancient Caledonia, and now called by the English, and its own inhabitants, Scotland, from Scoti or Scythi, a people of Germany, who seized on a part of Spain next to Ireland, and from thence (viz. from Biscay) came into the western parts of this country, which is bounded on the south by England (from which it is divided thus ; by the river Tweed on the eastern border, by Cheviot hills in the middle marches, and by the river Esk and Solway on the western border), on the north it is bounded by the Deucalion sea, on the west by the Irish sea, and on the east by the German ocean.

Its chief town is Edinburgh, about 300 miles north from London, latitude $55^{\circ} 55'$, longitude $2^{\circ} 25'$, north-west of London. It is an ancient and fine city, whose houses are very high and commonly built with hewn stone ; it is about a large Scotch mile in length from the castle to the palace, above half a mile from north to south, and three miles in compass ; it lies in a pleasant and well cultivated country, which makes provisions to be plentiful and cheap. The parliament-house is a stately, convenient, and large structure. The kings of Scotland had their ordinary residence in the palace of Holy-rood house. The castle at the west end of the city is very ancient and strong both by art and nature : It was formerly called the Maiden-castle, because the kings of the Picts kept their daughters in it.

It is commonly divided into three great parts. 1. South Scotland, or the ancient kingdom of the Picts. 2. North Scotland, or the kingdom of the ancient Scotland. 3. The Isles.

North Scotland contains seventeen provinces, which are set down here as they lie in order from the borders of England, west to east, and then east to west, &c.

<i>Provinces.</i>	<i>Chief towns, with their distance in miles from Edinburgh.</i>
1. Galloway.	Wigtown, Kirkcudbright, 78 S. W.
2. Nithsdale.	Dumfries, 57 S. W. Drumlanerk, 52.
3. Annandale.	Annan, 50 S. Moffat, 37.
4. Eskdale with Eufdale.	Langham.
5. Liddefdale.	Hermitage, an ancient castle.
6. Teviotdale.	Yedburgh, 33 S. E. Kelso, Roxburgh.
7. March with Lauderdale.	Duns, 34 S. E. Coldingham, Lauder.
	8. Tweeddale.

<i>Provinces.</i>	<i>Chief towns, with their distance in miles from Edinburgh.</i>
8. Tweeddale.	Peebles, 22 S. Selkirk, 27 S. E.
9. Clydesdale.	Glasgow, 38 W. Lanerk, Hamilton.
10. Kyle.	Aire, 64 S. W.
11. Carrick.	Bargeny.

Now beginning again by the east, at the north of Mers you find.

<i>Provinces.</i>	<i>Chief towns, with their distance from Edinburgh.</i>
12. Lothian { East Middle West	Haddington, Dunbar, Bass isle.
13. Sterling.	Edinburgh, Leith, Dalkeith.
14. Renfrew.	Linlithgow, Queensferry.
15. Cunningham.	Sterling, 25 W. Bannocburn.
16. The Isles { Bute Arran	Renfrew, 44 W. Pasty.
17. Peninsula of Kintyre.	Irwin, 62 S. W. Kilmarnock.
	Rothsay.
	Broadick; this island belongs to the duke of Hamilton.
	Campel town, Kilcheran, Dunwert.

The parts or provinces of Scotland, north the Firth, beginning at the S. W. goin eastward, &c. are

	{ Kintyre, of which already.	
1. Argyle	{ Knapdale.	Kilmorie, 76. N. W.
compre-	{ Cowal.	Denoon.
hends	{ Lorn.	Dunstaffag, 105.
	{ Argyle proper	Inverary, 68.
2. Lenox.		Dunbarton, 53 W.
3. Menteith, Clacmanan, and Kinros.		Dumblain, 33 N. W. Clacmanan
4. Strathern.		Abernethy, 24. Tullibardin.
5. Perth.		Perth, 28. Dunkeld, 40. Errol Scoon.
6. Fife.		St. Andrews, 26 N. E. Dunferling, 14
		N. W. Couper, 22 N.
7. Angus.		Forfar, Dundee, 33 N. Montrose, Brechin,
		Couper.
8. Merns.		Kincardin, Dunnotyr.
9. Goury, famous for its noble fields of corn.		Douny, Gornack.
10. Athol.		Blair, Gillicranky.
11. Brodalbin.		Finlarick.
12. Lochaber.		Innerlochy, 97 N. W. Fort Williams,
		Kilmaroy.
13. Badenoch.		Ruffen.
14. Mar, and Mernis.		Aberdeen, 80 N. E. Covie.
15. Buchan.		Frazerbourg, Peter-head, Innerourie.
16. Bamf.		Bamf, Cullen, Balveny, Stratila, Strathaven.
17. Murray.		Elgin, Nain, Forres, Rothes.
		18. Inver.

18. Inverness.

19. Ross

20. Sutherland.

21. Strathavern.

22. Caithness.

103 N. W.

Tayne, Cromartie, Channerie, Yeln, Don-
nen, Glenhiel, on the S. W.

Dornock, Brora.

Tung.

Wick.

These are the chief provinces of Scotland. Now 3dly, the islands are, 1. the western or Hebrides.

ISLES.	Length Miles.	Breadth Miles.	Chief Towns.
1. Isla	24	12	Owais.
2. Iura	24	7	
3. Mull	24	24	Dewart.
4. Skie	40	25	Dunvegon.
5. Southvift	21	4	
6. Northvift	9	9	
7. Lewis, and Harris	100	13	

with several other small ones. In all these islands it is to be observed, that the inhabitants are generally well proportioned, of an ordinary stature, good complexion and healthful, several of them living to an hundred years and upwards; they are very hospitable, though not very rich; they are for the most part Protestants, but very superstitious, and some of them are said to be possessed of what is called the second sight, *i. e.* of the gift of seeing before-hand what is to come to pass afterwards. And though they have but little money, yet they have what is necessary for the comforts of life.

2. The northern islands, called Orcades or Orkney.

First, Pomona, an isle twenty-four miles in length, and eight in breadth. Kirkwald is the chief town. Secondly, Hoy, an isle twelve miles in length, and six in breadth, with several other small ones. All these isles lie between latitude $59^{\circ} 30'$, and 60° ; they are reckoned thirty-two in number, but twenty-six only are inhabited. The common people live after the ancient frugal manner, so that they are rarely troubled with any distemper of body or mind, and most of them die of age. This way of living contributes to their beauty and stature, and their ignorance of what is called dainties preserves their health. They have barley and oats, of which they make bread and drink. They have good store of sheep, black cattle, and goats, and innumerable flocks of sea-fowl, and store of fish. Here are no poisonous animals, and they have scarce a tree, or a shrub, except heath, juniper, myrtle, and wild rose trees; though large oak trees are frequently dug up in their mosses, and they have some fruit trees and others in their gardens at Kirkwald.

3. As for the islands of Schetland they are several in number, and the biggest is 60 miles long, and twenty where broadest. They are much the same with those of Orkney, except that they are situated more northwards, viz. between 60 and 61 degrees of north latitude. The people of these northern islands are probably of Gothick extraction, but they talk English, and are much improved by foreigners and others who come hither to fish. They are all Protestants except very few, and live to a very great age, 100, 140, and even 180 years.

This

This is the common division of Scotland, according to the generality of maps; but that kingdom is ordinarily divided into shires or sherifffdoms, stewartries, bailliaries, and constabularies.

Scotland is situated betwixt longitude east from London, 26 minutes and 8 degrees west, and betwixt latitude $54^{\circ} 48'$, and $59^{\circ} 15'$. and including Schetland $60^{\circ} 50'$ being (exclusive of the isles) from Mule of Galloway in the south, to Dunbyhead in Caithness, 389 miles long, and from Adermouthhead, near the isle of Mule, to Buchaness, 189 broad; but if we take in the west isles, and the sea betwixt, it is 67 miles broader. It lies betwixt the 10th and 14th northern climates. The longest day is commonly reckoned about eighteen hours nine minutes, and the shortest night about five hours and forty-five minutes on the continent; but in the isle of Skie, about the summer solstice, the night is not above half an hour long; and in the Orkney, about June, one may see to read all night, their longest day being nineteen hours: and from a mountain in Huy, one of those isles, the body of the sun is seen all night about the summer solstice, as it were a little obscured with a cloud, from half an hour past eleven at night, till half an hour past one in the morning. The air of the country in general is wholesome, and though colder than that of England, yet for the most part clearer, being purified by more frequent and stronger winds. This contributes much to the health of the inhabitants, and not a little to the clearness and briskness of their understandings; the people, especially those who have had a good education, being sharp, witty, of good judgment, and of a brisk temper. It is generally said, that many of the Scots, especially the Highlanders, and inhabitants of the isles live to a very great age, some to 100, others to 120, 130, and 180; this longevity is commonly ascribed to the healthfulness of the climate, and to the temperate way of living of those people.

The soil of Scotland, though not so fruitful as that of England, produces nevertheless all things necessary for human life. And though the country be for the most part mountainous, yet they have many valleys, which (especially those towards the sea) are of a fat and blackish soil, fit for all sorts of corn and fruit; they have higher ground, which is not so fat, but is arable, and fit for rye and barley, pease, beans, flax and hemp: and their thicker soil produces excellent oats and roots: for manuring the land, besides the ordinary dung, they have talc, marle, sea-ware, tangle and lime. The aspect of the country in general varies much, and seems to partake of the nature of most climates: in some places they have hills almost perpetually covered with snow: in others, the lakes and rivers never freeze, and the ground smokes by reason of the sulphur shut up in its bowels. In some parts the aspect is very melancholy with rocks, hills, and lakes: in others, there are fruitful corn-fields, and lovely pastures, but fowls and fish abound every where; so that provisions are plentiful and cheap, although the country be populous, and the people very prolifick.

They are divided into Highlanders, who call themselves the ancient Scots, and into Lowlanders, who are a mixture of ancient Scots, Picts, French, English, Danes, Germans, Hungarians, and others. So they differ in their manners: the Highlanders in their diet, apparel, and household-furniture, follow the parsimony of their ancestors; but the Lowlanders very much resemble the several nations we have mentioned them to be descended from; but most of all the French, occasioned by the long league betwixt the two nations, by their mutual commerce, frequent inter-marriages, and custom of travelling into France, the lineaments of their bodies are as well proportioned, and as comely, as any nation in Europe, which, together with their natural courage, activity, and ability to endure hardships and fatigue, makes them fit for war; they are also prudent and ingenious, and it is not to be denied but their genius is as well adapted for arts and arms, as

that of any people of Christendom. They are polite and very civil, especially to strangers: they are also very religious, sober, and great lovers of science; but they are charged with being envious, jealous, revengeful and proud, addicted to sedition, and vain.

The language commonly spoken in the north and north-west parts of this country is a dialect of the Irish, corruptly called *Erse*: for as they are the posterity of those who first came to Scotland from Ireland, they still retain the ancient language in a greater purity than the Irish themselves, because they were never mixed with any other people, as the Irish have been; but in all other parts of the kingdom they use the English tongue, though with a considerable difference in the pronunciation in different counties, and all disagreeing with that of England, except the town of Inverness, whose inhabitants are the only people who come the nearest to the true English: however, the gentry, and persons of good education, usually speak English (though not with the same accent as in England) according to its true propriety; and the manner of writing is much the same.

This kingdom formerly enjoyed for a very long time an hereditary limited monarchy, though the immediate heir, or next in blood, has been often set aside, and another more remote has mounted the throne. Since its union to England in 1603, or rather in 1706-7, both kingdoms are under one king, who is stiled king of Great Britain.

Though the Scots have several laws and privileges peculiar to themselves, yet as to the government in general, it is almost the same as in England, their lords and commons making now a part of the British parliament; for the peers of Scotland are to name sixteen out of their number by open election and plurality of voices of the peers present, and of the proxies for such as shall be absent; the said proxies being peers, and both the constituents and proxies being qualified according to law. The several shires and boroughs named in the act of union are to chuse forty five members to assist in the house of commons. In Scotland are also, 1. The college of justice, commonly called the session, before whom all civil causes are tried at stated times, viz. from the first of November to the last of February, and from the first of June to the last of July, 2. The court of the lord justiciary, by whom are tried all the crimes which reach the lives of criminals; and the matter is submitted to a jury of 15 persons, which is not allowed in other courts in cases of *meum* and *tuum*. All criminals are allowed the benefit of advocates or counsel to plead for them in this court. 3. The court of the exchequer for the king's revenue. Besides these courts, there are a great many subordinate ones both for civil and criminal affairs throughout the kingdom: and in all of them they proceed in determining causes by acts of parliaments, and the customs of the nation; and where those are defective, they determine them according to the imperial and civil law, not according to the rigour of the letter, but according to equity. The great officers of the state are, 1. The lord high-chancellor, or keeper of the great seal, whose salary is 3000*l.* per annum. 2. The principal secretary of state, and keeper of the signet. 3. The keeper of the privy seal 2000*l.* 4. The lord register 444*l.* 5. The lord advocate 1000*l.* 6. The lord justice clerk 400*l.* And 7. The solicitor 400*l.*

The Scotch nobility are more numerous, and (some of them) enjoy greater privileges than the peers of England; for some of them are hereditary sheriffs, governors, &c. of some counties or towns; and several of them are heads of tribes or clans, whose members are so many slaves and drudges to them. Families are very ancient and numerous. The most part of the Scotch noblemen who have travelled into foreign parts, are very civil to strangers, and best pleased when they are capable of making a great figure. Here is the order of the thistle, a very ancient order of knighthood, revived in king

James II. and queen Anne's time. It consists of twelve knights companions, besides the sovereign. They are also called knights of the order of St. Andrew.

CHAP. XV.—*Of the Ecclesiastical Government of Scotland.*

THE government of the church in this kingdom is that which later ages called presbyterian, because they allow of no church officer higher than a preaching presbyter, who, with the elders, or *seniores populi*, in lesser and larger associations, administer the government of the church.

According to this form of government the kingdom is divided into thirteen provincial synods, viz—

Provincial synods.	Presbyteries.	Parishes.
I. Lothian and Tweeddale, containing	1 Edinburgh	31
	2 Linlithgow	19
	3 Biggar	12
	4 Peebles	13
	5 Dalkeith	16
	6 Haddington	16
	7 Dumbar	10
		117
II. Merse and Tiviotdale,	1 Dunse	11
	2 Chirnside	14
	3 Kelfoe	10
	4 Jedburg	15
	5 Selkirk	11
	6 Erfilton	10
		71
III.—Dumfrees,	1 Midlebee	12
	2 Lockmaben	15
	3 Penpont	9
	4 Drumfrees	18
		54
IV.—Galloway,	1 Kirkcudbright	16
	2 Wigton	10
	3 Stranrawer	11
		37
V.—Glasgow and Aire,	1 Aire	28
	2 Irwin	19
	3 Paisley	16
	4 Hamilton	15
	5 Lanerk	13
	6 Glasgow	19
	7 Dumbarton	17
		127
VI.—Argyle,	1 Denoon	8
	2 Campbelton	10
	3 Inverary	8
	4 Kilmoir	12
	5 Skie	11
		49
		VII. Perth.

VII.—Perth,	1	Dunkeld	20
	2	Perth	21
	3	Dumblane	12
	4	Stirline	12
	5	Auchterarder	15
			80
VIII.—Fife,	1	Dumfermline	13
	2	Kirkaldy	17
	3	Couper	20
	4	St. Andrews	23
			73
IX.—Angus and Mearns,	1	Meegle	14
	2	Dundee	17
	3	Forfar	10
	4	Breechen	18
	5	Aberbrothock	11
	6	Merns or Fordoun	16
			86
X.—	1	Kincardine	15
	2	Aberdeen	21
	3	Alford	16
	4	Garioch	15
	5	Deer	13
	6	Turreff	10
	7	Fordice	8
	8	Ellen	8
			106
XI.—Murray,	1	Strathbogie	11
	2	Elgin	13
	3	Forrefts	10
	4	Inverness	13
	5	Abernethy	5
	6	Aberdour	7
			59
XII.—Ross,	1	Chanry	7
	2	Tain	9
	3	Dingwal	13
	4	Dornoch	9
			38
XIII.—Orkney,	1	Caithness	12
	2	Orkney	18
	3	Zetland	12
			42

Provincial synods 13. Presbyteries 68.

Parishes 939.

The lowest ecclesiastical court is the kirk-session, or parochial consistory, which consists of the minister or ministers, when more than one in a parish, elders and deacons, with a clerk and beadle. The elders' business is to assist the minister in visiting the congregation.

gregation upon occasion, to watch over the morals of the people in his district, and to give them private reproof in case of any disorder; but if the scandal be gross, or the person obstinate, he is to lay the matter before the consistory or session, who by their beadle cite the person accused to appear before them, hear what he has to say in his own defence, and either acquit or censure him, according as the matter appears to them by confession or evidence; and if a censure ensue, it is proportioned to the nature of the offence or scandal given by it, if it has given publick offence a publick acknowledgment of it is required. The elders are chosen from among the most substantial, knowing and regular people. The deacons are chosen in the same manner, whose office is to take care of the poor, and to see that the charity of the congregation be rightly managed and duly applied; they are also consulted, but have no decisive voice in matters of censure, &c. except they be also elders. This court are judges of admitting to the Lord's table or debarring from it in their respective parishes; the communicants are examined before them as to their knowledge and conversation, and their resolutions to renew and perform their baptismal covenant by coming to the Lord's-supper. From this court there lies an appeal to the presbytery, if any persons think themselves injured by their censures; and sometimes the minister and elders do of themselves bring the case of obstinate offenders, or of such as by reason of their quality either will not submit, or are improper to be censured by this court, before the presbytery. In country parishes the session generally sits the Lord's-day after sermon, but in towns on other days, as it suits best with their conveniency.

The presbyteries, as may be seen by the scheme above, consist of such a number of ministers and elders of neighbouring parishes as can most conveniently meet together; in ordinary cases, one ruling elder from each congregation is enough. The ministers and elders, when met, chuse one of the ministers to be *preses*, or chair-man, for such time as they think fit; the person so chosen is called moderator, and his business is to regulate their proceedings according to the general rules of the scripture, and the particular constitutions of the church, to take care that they proceed orderly in their debates, and to collect their suffrages when any thing comes to a vote; and all their proceedings are carefully writ down and registered by their clerk. Before this court are tried appeals from parochial consistories, or kirk sessions, and they inspect into the behaviour of the ministers and elders of their respective bounds, whom they visit by turns, and hear complaints of either ministers or people: they take care to supply the vacant churches in their respective districts, for whom they ordain pastors, upon sufficient trial of their learning, and of their other qualifications, or admit them, if they have been ordained elsewhere, upon their producing certificates from other presbyteries, &c. They also try, and license young men who offer themselves to trial, or are by the presbytery required so to do, in order to their entrance upon the work of the ministry, or becoming probationers for it: they examine them as to their knowledge in Latin, Greek, Hebrew, divinity, philosophy, church history, chronology, and as to their lives and conversations, &c. and after having prescribed them suitable exercises for their trial on all those heads, they approve or reject them, as they see cause, the person always withdrawing while they pass their censure upon his performance, and called in afterwards to receive it from the moderator. This court does likewise judge of causes, for the greater excommunication, before it be inflicted on any person within their bounds, in order to bring them to a sense of their sin and to repentance: this sentence is seldom pronounced, and never but for weighty causes, but with great solemnity and awe, according to the general rules of the scripture, which makes it very much dreaded and respected. The ministers preach by turns at the meeting of each presbytery, which is
once:

once *per* month at least; and this is found to be of very good use to oblige the ministers to keep to a constant exercise of their learning, and other ministerial abilities, wherein any decay or neglect would soon be observed and censured by such an auditory. When they ordain a minister, they generally make him undergo the same trials that he underwent when admitted a probationer; and if there be no valid objection by the presbytery, or the people who gave him the call, they proceed to ordination, with prayer and imposition of hands, after having asked him proper questions concerning his belief of the scriptures, his having had recourse to Jesus Christ for salvation, out of a deep sense of his own sin; of his adhering to the doctrine, worship, discipline, and government of the church; and of his entering upon the ministry out of a sincere design to serve God in the gospel of his Son, and not for filthy lucre.

The provincial synod consists of all the ministers of the province, with a ruling elder from each parish; they meet twice a year, and chuse their own moderator; their business is to determine appeals from the presbyteries of their district, to inquire into the behaviour of the several presbyteries, and for that end inspect their books; they likewise censure such scandals, as particular presbyters may not think proper for them to meddle with, because of the quality of the offender, &c. and determine concerning the transportation of ministers from one place to another within their own district, for the greater good of the church. From this court, which generally lasts about a week, there lies an appeal to the general assembly.

This general assembly is constituted of ministers and elders deputed from every presbytery of the nation: the ruling elders of this assembly are many times members of parliament, and others of the greatest quality. This court gives a final determination to all appeals from inferior church-judicatories, and makes acts and constitutions for the whole church: their moderator, or *preses*, is chosen by themselves, and the sovereign generally sends a commissioner, who proposes what is thought proper on the part of the crown, and takes care to prevent any thing that may displease the government; but he has no vote in the assembly, nor is his presence there necessary by the constitution: they are empowered by act of parliament to meet at least once *per annum*, and there lies no appeal from them.

In all these ecclesiastical courts, they begin and end with prayer; they can inflict no temporal punishment, but confine themselves altogether to ecclesiastical censures; they are a great barrier to the established religion; and all the members being elective, and the people represented as well as the clergy, it is not easy, if those courts be left to chuse their members, and act with freedom, according to the constitution, to bring any innovation into the doctrine, worship, discipline, or government of the Church of Scotland.

They differ nothing from the Church of England, and other reformed churches, in point of things necessary to salvation, but only some ceremonies they will not admit of: however, no Christian society in the world excels them for their exact observation of the sabbath day, and few can equal them for their singular strictness and impartiality in punishing scandals. There were formerly two archbishopricks, viz. St. Andrew and Glasgow, and twelve bishops, Edinburgh, Dunkeld, Aberdeen, Murray, Brechin, Dumblain, Ross, Caithness, Orkney, Galloway, Argyle, and the Isles. The universities are, St. Andrew, Glasgow, Aberdeen, and Edinburgh.

In my inquiry after the trade of this country, I was generally answered according to the inclinations of the persons with whom I discoursed; some, especially the English, who by no means like the Scottish nation, depreciate this country, and its traffick, produce, and inhabitants, as much as possible, in the esteem of a foreigner; others, the Scot-

Scots themselves, enamoured with the remembrance of their ancient power, and (as is common with all nations, I believe) with a preference of their affections for their native soil, extol them all above comparison with the other parts of the British isle.

The English deny, that they produce so much as the necessaries of life. The Scots boast of their pearl and herring, and cod and whale fisheries. They pretend to vie with all nations for ambergrise, black and white marcasites, the *lapis cerarius*, the *lapis heclicus* (a sovereign remedy in consumptions, the *dysenteria* and *diarrhæa*) the agate, the amethyst, the crystal stone, talc, marle, the loadstone, and spermaceti. They also tell us of gold-mines in Crawford-Moor, of silver-mines in Carnpapell-Hill, of copper-mines in Airthey, of lead-mines in Clidisdale, of tin and lead-mines in the Orkneys, of iron-mines at Dumfermline, in Fife, &c. of coal-mines in Lothian, Fife, &c. of marble-quarries, quicksilver, antimony, chrysocola, diamonds, rubies, carbuncles, jacinths, topazes, beryls, jaspers, and cornelians. And if this account be true, certainly Scotland is the most desirable country in the world for riches and foreign commerce.

But, be that as it will, I am more inclined to believe those that do not thus far run into the extreme praise of their country; and talk not so much of the bowels of their earth, but what it really and yearly is known to produce, and can vouch their trade by samples of their own produce and manufactures. These tell us, that their country, in some parts, produceth good wheat, oats, pease, beans, barley, rye, flax, and hemp; and this I take for granted, that the numerous and large flocks of sheep they have in Scotland, produce abundance of wool, from whence come manufactures of several sorts, as broad-cloth, coarse or hufwife's cloth, fringes, fignrines, baize, crapes, temmin, Glasgow plaids, worsted-camblets and other stuffs, and stockings, for home-consumption and export; besides their tallow and skins. Their wool in general is not so good as that of England, yet very proper for serges, baize, camblets, shalloons, and other stuffs; and, by due regulation, is capable of great improvement for a foreign trade. They are come to a great perfection in making stuffs, and for plaids they exceed all the world. They make such fine worsted stockings at Aberdeen, that they yield 10, 15, 20, and 30s. a pair for women's stockings.

They have a multitude of small horses, fit for riding journeys, and as numerous a breed of small black cattle, whose meat is generally much sweeter than that of the English black cattle; and their hides, if dressed and tanned right, are fit for foal-leather, harness for coaches, &c. and other uses.

There is plenty of all sorts of deer in the parks of those of quality in the low-lands, but especially in the mountains and wastes in the north highlands and isles, where great flocks of them run wild, and are not only excellent food, but are capable of yielding great profit by their skins, &c.

They have great flocks of sheep, both of a larger and lesser size, which yield a great profit to the inhabitants by their meat, milk, wool, skins, and lambs, of which they are more than ordinary prolific; they sell great numbers of them yearly to the inhabitants of the north of England, and their meat in general is much sweeter, though of a less size than the English mutton.

From the milk of their black cattle and sheep, they make great quantities of butter and cheese, not only for home-consumption, but for exportation.

It is a vulgar error in England, and elsewhere, that the Scots have a general aversion to hogs, and to the food which they yield; for in those parts of the kingdom where they have corn and proper food in plenty for them, they are bred by the inhabitants,
not

not only for home-consumption, but also for exportation, considerable quantities of salted pork being yearly exported from the north of Scotland into other countries.

Scotland has not only plenty of domestick fowl, such as are common in other countries, but many that are peculiar to themselves, especially in the islands; where they are in such multitudes, as the inhabitants can neither consume nor vend.

Having thus given a brief account of Scotland's chief product for trade, I shall, in the next place, give a short account how they are capable to barter or exchange their own commodities for such of other countries as they stand in need of, or may have occasion to trade with.

From England the goods usually imported into Scotland, are the woollen manufacture of all sorts, alomed leather, shambo, gloves, lead, pewter, tin, iron, black cattle, horses, hops, cyder; and some years, when their own harvest proves bad, corn of all sorts, manufactures of pewter, iron, steel, and brass, tobacco, sugar, indigo, cotton, and the goods the English import from China, Persia, the East-Indies, and other nations; for exchange of which Scotland imports into England linen cloth of all sorts, coals, salt, small black cattle, sheep, salmon, marble, slates grey and blue, pearl, cod and ling, and small horses.

From Ireland the Scots import sometimes black cattle, sheep, wool, and woollen manufactures, with some corn and horses; for which they have to exchange linen cloth, coal, salt, cod, ling, red and white herrings, oak, oak bark, and fir timber.

The Scots import from Norway fir-timber and deals, tar, fish, oil, copper, and carvie-feed, oak, wainscot, pipe-staves, and firs, and sometimes horses from Denmark.

The Scots import from the Baltick iron, copper, wire of copper and iron, great guns, mortars, bullets, fir-timber, and deals, for which they have to exchange white and red herrings.

The Scots import from Nerva, Revel, and Riga, the best hemp, flax of all sorts, knapple, tar, linseed, firs, pot-ashes, and train-oil; for which they have to exchange white and red herrings, alomed leather, gloves, lamb-skins, lead, woollen manufactures, and fine and coarse stockings.

The Scots import from Dantzick and Poland, hemp, flax, linseed, tarred ropes, pitch, steel-kits, knapple, oak, wainscot, glass, black beer, strong-waters, pot ashes, white pease, rye, and other corn, for which they have to exchange red and white herrings, salt, alomed leather, and lamb-skins.

From Holland they import most of their grocery ware, materials for dying, fine holland, silks, toys, spices of all sorts, currants, raisins, figs, rice, sugar, sugar-candy, tobacco, pickles of all sorts, gunpowder, arms, starch, pot-ashes, soap, hops, ivory, silk and worsted stuffs, thread, calicoes, muslin, East-India goods of all sorts, oils, drugs, ships, rigging, flax, hemp, rosin, tobacco, linseed, garden-seeds, trees, statues, marble, books, lime-juice, vinegar, white-wine, Rhenish, sack, brandy, wainscot, planks, hops, earthen-ware, and all sorts of household furniture.

And they import into Holland salmon, herrings, coals, wheat and barley, butter, eggs, beef, hides, tallow, coarse woollen cloth, wool, sheep-skins, ferges, singrines, baize, pladding, woollen-stuffs, such as those of Norwich, worsted yarn, stockings, lead, lead-oar, gloves, and pearl.

From France they import wines, brandy, prunes, chestnuts, silk, salt, writing-paper, hats, gloves, and toys.

And they export salmon, herrings, cod, coals, lead, wool, coarse woollen cloth, stockings, dog-skins, and other skins.

From

From Spain and Portugal they import wine, fruit, oranges, lemons, salt, raisins, and cochineal.

And export salmon, herrings, cod-fish, linen of several sorts, coarse woollen cloth, ferges, stockings, candles, tallow, bees-wax, raw hides, beef, Montrose pistols.

The Scots import from Naples oil, silk, silk stuffs, and rice; for which they have to exchange red and white herrings, salmon, bars of lead, cotton-wicked candles, tanned leather, and calf-skins.

They import from Galipoly oils, rice, juice of liquorice, and liquorice; for which they have to exchange the same commodities that serve for Naples. They import likewise the same commodities from Messina and Sicily in general, for which they exchange the like commodities as for Naples.

They import from Venice brimstone, the finest red pile rice, fine crystal drinking-glasses, looking-glasses, cabinets, small beads, silk and silk stuffs, muscadine wine, Greek wine, currants, Roman scented gloves, Venice necklaces, sham pearls; for which they have to exchange red-herrings, salmon, bars of lead, cotton-wick'd candles, bees-wax, log-wood, tanned-leather, calf-skins, fine stockings, ferges, baize white and dyed, dry cod and ling.

They import from Cephalonia currants, Greek wine, and rice, and trade thither with the same goods as to Venice, or rather with the money they make of their goods at Venice.

From Barbary they import rice, figs, raisins, dates, almonds, copper; for which they have to exchange locks of guns, arms, linen and woollen manufactures and lead.

From the Canaries, Malvasia wines, green wines, red and white Vidonia, or hard wines, pitch, fine preserved fruits, cordecidron, sugar-loaves, orchard, shumack, pitch, logwood; for which they have to exchange red and white herrings, linen and woollen manufactures, salt beef, candles, butter, and bar-lead.

From the Madeiras they import red and white Madeira wines, brandy, cordecidron, brasil, sugar, shumack, and archald for dyers; for which they have to exchange red and white herrings, salmon, linen and woollen manufactures.

From the English West-Indies they import sugar, indigo, tobacco, ginger dry and wet, cotton wool, lime-juice, and rum; for which they have to exchange salt beef, red and white herrings, wheat and flour, candles, &c.

Their linen and woollen manufactures, salt beef, red and white herrings, flour, candles, butter, are also proper commodities to exchange for the product of Martinico, Surinam, Curaffo, Jamaica, Carolina, New York, East and West Jersey, Virginia, Pennsylvania, and New England.

They import from Russia pot-ashes, train-oil, hemp, timber, tarred ropes, bees-wax, honey, mead, tar, cavier, rhubarb, agarick, musk, and isinglass; for which they exchange lead, red and white herrings.

For the product of Guinea, which is gold-dust and elephants' teeth, the Scots have to exchange linen and woollen manufactures, knives, scissars, small looking-glasses, and other toys, strong waters, beads, pewter dishes, Glasgow plaids, &c.

For the product of the Negro coast, viz. negroes, elephants' teeth, bees-wax, and gum arabick, Scotland has to exchange *wam-pum-pig*, or fine shells, found in great quantities on the coasts of the isles, coarse white linen and fignines, toys, strong waters, and pewter dishes.

This is the substance of what I have learned from good authority, concerning its product and trade; not that I suppose that the product of Scotland is sufficient to trade

to all those places without money, but the Scots product is sufficient to procure money to trade to such of those places where it is necessary.

I have insisted the longer upon this head of Scotland's product for trade, to undeceive other people, who, by the misrepresentations of envious or ignorant authors, have been much imposed upon by extravagant accounts of the intrinsic poverty and barrenness of this country.

The chief rivers, sea-ports, and strong towns, are,

1. The Forth,	}		{	E.	}	{	Sterling, Fife, Lothian.
2. Tay,			{	E.	}	{	Broadalbin, Athol, Dundee.
3. Spey,			{	N. E.	}	{	Badenoch, Bamf, Murray.
4. Don, }	{	} running	{	E.	}	{	} near Aberdeen.
5. Dee, }							
6. Clyd,			{	N. W.	}	{	Glasgow.
7. Tweed,	}		{	E.	}	{	Berwick.

The sea-ports, or towns on navigable rivers, are Leith near Edinburgh, Dundee, Montrose, Aberdeen, Glasgow, Kircubright, Carveltan, &c.

The strong towns are Edinburgh Castle, Sterling, Dunbar Castle, Fort Williams, Bafs near the Forth in an island, Innerness.

The inhabitants of Annandale and other lesser dales or valleys, were always accounted a warlike people, and much given to incursions, from which the western borders of both nations could scarce be restrained either by peace or truce, before the union of the two crowns.

Duns is remarkable for the birth of the famous *Johannes Duns Scotus*.

Coldingham is famous for its abbey, founded by Edgar king of Scotland, about the year 1100, and for Ebba, the lady abbess, who, during a Danish invasion, disfigured herself by flitting her nose, and persuaded her nuns to do the like, to prevent their being ravished by the Danes.

Lauder is remarkable for the execution done upon James III's minions by the nobility, who, under the conduct of the earl of Angus, took them out of the court, and hanged them over Lauder bridge.

Aire is remarkable for the birth of one of the most learned schoolmen, from hence called *Johannes Scotus Ærigena*, and likewise for a severe revenge which the famous Sir William Wallace the champion, and at that time warden of Scotland, took here upon the English, who, under pretence of holding a justice eyre in Edward the first's time, after he had over-run the country during the competition betwixt Bruce and Baliol for the Scots crown, summoned the neighbouring nobility and gentry to the court, which was held in large barns belonging to the king, and hanged them one after another as they entered, thinking by this means to keep Scotland for ever under his obedience; but Sir William, having notice of what passed, came with a body of men that same night, surprised the English in the midst of their jollity, set the barns on fire, and burnt all that were in them. This town is also memorable for the defeat of Acho king of Norway, who in 1263, during the reign of Alexander III. king of Scotland, brought 160 ships to the neighbourhood, with 20,000 men; and, after plundering the adjacent country, was routed by Alexander Stuart, great-grandfather to the first of that family, who enjoyed the crown. The king of Norway lost also most of his fleet, on board of which he fled, and by that means was forced to quit his pretensions to the western islands of Scotland, which had been granted to him by Donald Bane, an usurper, on promise of assistance to maintain him on the Scottish throne.

There

There are several islands on the coasts of Lothian, whereof Bass is the most remarkable, being an impregnable fort, and abounding with soland geese, which in April come hither in flocks, who, before their coming, send some to fix their mansion, which are therefore called their scouts; they lay but one egg at a time, and fix it so dexterously on the rock by one end, that if it be moved, it is impossible to fix it again; they hatch it with their foot, and scarce leave it till it be hatched. The fish caught by the old ones many times furnish the inhabitants with food, as the sticks they bring for their nests furnish them with fuel. When they come to be as big as ordinary geese, they are very good meat. They leave this island in September, but whither they retire during the winter is not known.

Sterling, in the Saxon tongue, signifieth a rock or mountain on a river, alluding to the situation of the town and castle. The town is situated in a pleasant and fruitful country, into which it has a fine prospect. The castle is a noble and magnificent structure, and is very strong both by art and nature. This town is reckoned the key of the kingdom, because it opens the passage from south to north, there being no such easy passage over the Forth, as by Sterling bridge.

Bannockburn is famous for the noble victory the Scots obtained there over Edward II. under the conduct of king Robert Bruce, the greatest defeat that ever the English received from the Scots. It is also memorable for the defeat and death of king James III. for his nobility finding him incurably addicted to arbitrary government, armed his son against him, and set him up in his stead.

The duke of Argyle is hereditary sheriff of Lorn; it is a peculiar right of this family, that, when they marry any daughter, their vassals are obliged to pay their portion, and are taxed in order to it, according to the number of their cattle.

Broadalbin lies among the Grampian hills; the word in the old language signifies the highest part of Scotland, and part of it called Drumalbin does likewise signify the ridge or back of Scotland. This appears to have been the country anciently called Albany, and part of the residence of the ancient Scots, who still call themselves Albinnich from the country, and retain the ancient language and habit; they are a hardy and warlike people, and follow much of the ancient parsimony in their way of living; and from this country it was that the sons of the royal family had the title of dukes of Albany.

And thus I conclude my remarks upon this ancient kingdom, which now, of all christian nations, seems to be in the greatest slavery, under the management of a state whose subjects can boast of the greatest freedom by their laws.

*A TOUR TO THE WEST OF ENGLAND, IN 1788. BY THE REV. S. SHAW,
M. A. FELLOW OF QUEEN'S COLLEGE, CAMBRIDGE.**

THAT the human mind is happiest, when its powers are in a progressive state of improvement, will not, I believe, be denied. Employment concordant with its high nature and exalted wishes, is absolutely necessary, to enable it to enjoy that blissful state, of which it is capable even in this world. It is (to compare great things with small) like a well-formed instrument whose tones and vibrations depend upon due tension and care, but whose harmony is enervated and destroyed by improper relaxation. He, therefore, who can exercise his intellectual faculties in a manner worthy of them, promotes materially his own happiness at least, and if he can add any thing, either instructive or entertaining to the knowledge of others, deserves no mean praise of the public.

It was with this conviction, that last summer, when the town began to grow dull and empty, and all nature was in its most beautiful state, we determined to undertake a tour over some part of England. To mark the varying face of countries; to behold the different states of edifices; to view the strong, the beautiful, and the stupendous buildings, which ages, so unlike our own, either awed by fear, or inspired by religion, have erected; to tread upon the ground, where heroes and sages have been nursed, or have resided; to behold with pensive regret, the decay of ancient families; to trace and to observe the rise and fall of cities, are intellectual exertions, that surely may delight the most cultivated minds.

It was very long before our ancestors became acquainted with the face of their own country. The monks to whom literature was confined, immured within their own gloomy walls, knew nothing of the geography of their country; and of those parts of knowledge, with which they were acquainted, they felt the importance too much in swaying the bulk of mankind, to disperse them beyond the limits of their dark monasteries. This immoderate darkness being dispelled, and the great invention of printing being discovered, the bright rays of genius soon spread themselves over the world, illuminated every science and circulated every noble improvement of the mind.

The first who undertook to make himself acquainted with the subject we are now engaged in, and to display it to others, was Leland, who led by his own enthusiastic genius for our antiquities, traversed in search of knowledge, under the patronage of Henry VIII. every part of the kingdom; traced rivers, visited and described towns, seats, and churches; and rescued from impending destruction, as many of the innumerable historical papers and records, that were dispersed carelessly every where, (by the dissolution of religious houses), as the diligence of one man could, by extracting and transcribing, effect. His accuracy and his lively fancy have preserved, in his itinerary and his other works, many pleasing pictures of the state of buildings, &c. of those times, and many delightful memorials of families, that but for him had been buried in the womb of time. I know not a more entertaining as well as useful work, than his itinerary. But alas! this great man's designs were greater than all his efforts were able to execute. He lost his senses before he died; he was buried amidst the devastations, his great labours were intended to preserve.

Camden was the next bright genius that rose to forward that great work his predecessor had begun, "to restore antiquity to Britain, and Britain to antiquity." His innate abilities, and propensities to pursuits of this kind, while he was at the university, soon made him master of every latent particle that might be useful to himself, and to the

world. Ten years were devoted to his researches for his *Britannia*, which he first published soon after the age of thirty; and which is such a lasting memorial of his services, as will not perish but with the English language.

The imitators of these two luminaries of topography, have been too numerous to come within the compass of this prefatory discussion. I will only observe that the endeavours of other nations, in illustrating matters of antiquity and geography would fall very short in comparison with our own. Where shall we find, beyond the limits of our own kingdom, a Plott, a Gibson, or a Gough? The latter of whom is now happily employed, amidst his other able performances, in preparing a new edition of the *Britannia*, soon to be given to the world.

To walk humbly in the paths of such great men, and to gather flowers which they have hastily or inadvertently let fall, with those, which have sprung up beneath the nurturing hand of later times, can surely be called no mean or uninteresting employment.

Tours of this kind, though but moderately written, if taken through a considerable tract of country, must contain sufficient matter of instruction and amusement, to exercise the powers of the mind, by the most pleasing exertions, and add something to that employment, which makes time glide smoothly, if not rapidly, down the vale that leads to eternity.

It is a melancholy reflection, and a bad compliment to the taste of the age, to suppose that subjects of this kind should be neglected, or cast aside as unworthy trash, while the hackneyed novel, whose greater insipidity is its only distinction, from the production of the preceding day; or the insidious tale of ribaldry and calumny, whose only support is its baseness and effrontery, arrest the attention of the multitude, and find encouragement and reward.

To accommodate those readers, whose taste cannot relish the unadorned narration of history, the following pages are occasionally interspersed with digressions of fancy, and descriptions of the muse, but plain facts and common occurrences are faithfully and simply minuted as they were observed.

If novelty has any charms in the composition of a Tour, the course this has taken may without vanity or self-importance, claim some degree of merit. Numerous have been the descriptions of the North of England and Scotland, while the Western beauties of this Isle lie almost unnoticed, at least in any regular and extensive route. And though they cannot boast the same sublime features of lake and rock, yet they display an infinite variety of other objects, with no small share of the romantic and beautiful.

The visitor is here delighted, though perhaps he may not be so much surprized, while he obtains an accurate and distinct knowledge of the fertility of his country and the opulence and resources of its people.

These were the reasons that determined us in August, 1788, to fix upon a Tour through the West of England. The summer had been dry and backward, but the rains had at length fallen, and produced an abundance, and a verdure on the face of the country, that added to our hopes of pleasure. We were some days in deliberation about the exact course we should pursue, during which time we took the opportunity of visiting several places in the environs of London. But before we proceed it may not be improper to make a few observations and reflections, on this great centre of the kingdom, from whence all our tracks diverge, like the rays which are darted from the prime orb of the planetary system, to give life and light to the most distant and inferior parts.

If cathedrals and churches are the objects of our researches, where shall we find them more numerous and magnificent? nor can there be a moment's doubt of the superiority of every other public edifice. Do we want to examine the nature of hospitals and other charitable institutions? No city in the universe can shew the like number of private and public charities. Are we delighted with the busy scenes of trade and traffic? where shall we find them on a larger scale than on the banks of Thames!—No eye can well view a greater quantity of shipping, than this noble river exhibits: and in the wonderful architecture of bridges it stands unrivalled. Many of these principal features it is true we view every day in the common intercourse with London, and are contented with the cursory manner in which we see them; we have also various books to refer to, for particular accounts; but the former ought not to be the prevailing argument of general ignorance, nor the latter sufficient to satisfy, without personal inspection, the mind of the curious.

It would be foreign to my present purpose to enter into the minutiae of this vast city. But a few further remarks upon its progressive state may not be improper. If we compare its present appearance with that in Queen Elizabeth's time, the difference is almost incredible. By casting my eye over a map of London in 1558, annexed to the first volume of Queen Elizabeth's progresses, I obtained the following account.

The greater part from Temple-bar was quite in the country, except a few houses and gardens of the nobility on the banks of the Thames. Covent-garden was literally a garden, with only a row of houses along the Strand to Charing-cross. Holborn and St. Giles's were far in the country, and only exhibited a few scattered houses and walls.

In the same manner we may trace all the west end of the town, but with less prospect of ever being raised to that magnificence and excellence we now see it. The rapidity with which this vicinity has been built, is sufficiently described in that anecdote of Lord Burlington, thus told by Mr. Walpole in his anecdotes of painting,* "that Lord Burlington being asked why he built his house in Piccadilly so far out of town? replied, because he was determined to have no building beyond him." Little more than half a century has so inclosed Burlington house with new streets, that it is now in the heart of that part of London.

The city on the east and north sides was formerly much circumscribed to what it is at present. The tower stood quite separate like a well guarded place with fofs and walls, in the country. White-chapel had but few buildings. Spital-fields exhibited nothing but trees and hedge rows. Bishop-gate street was more considerable. London bridge was then the only passage of that kind over the Thames. What noble fabricks have since been raised, the admiring passenger beholds with astonishment.

The villages that every way surround London partake greatly of its influence, and the yearly increase of buildings of every description is most wonderful. The gaudy villas and gingerbread mansions of the citizens, to which they fly to enjoy the sweets of each weekly labour, and a few fresh hours of a more wholesome air, than what is impregnated with their mercantile effluvia; these retreats of comfort are too numerous to have a place in this present account. But we will not pass over all the more magnificent fabricks, &c. which present themselves in many charming situations, during several of our morning excursions. Indeed the environs of London might be made a tour of some time, and afford infinite variety and information to a thinking observer. We travel to admire and give accounts of other buildings, manufactures, and public places, without being able to describe the wonderful variety in and around this metropolis. But this is the common

* Vol. iv. p. 231.

error of mankind, and the rock on which most travellers split : we seek for distant objects of admiration, while perhaps the most pleasing ones, that daily lie before us, remain unnoticed ; we visit foreign countries for improvement while we are ignorant of our own.

To enjoy a pleasant and tranquil ride, we first took the Edgware road towards the north, which presents us with a prospect of eight miles of fertile pasture, well fringed with wood and uninterrupted by superfluous buildings until we approach this small market town. Near this is Canons, the object of our excursion, which stands, I believe, in the parish or hamlet of Stanmore parva, as Whitchurch chapel certainly does, which is a chapelry to Stanmore magna. Cannons was formerly the seat of the Lakes, a family no doubt of some continuance and respectability here, as they had allied themselves to the honourable family of Gerrard, of Harrow on the Hill, who had matched with the most noble and illustrious race of Seymour. The Hon. James Brydges, by marriage with Mary, only surviving daughter of Sir Thomas Lake, of this place in 1697, obtained possession of it, and afterwards succeeding to the Barony of Chandos, and being raised to the title of Duke, he built here one of the most magnificent palaces in the kingdom, and furnished it at an immense expence in the most superb manner. "The inside, (we are told,) was of exquisite workmanship. The stucco and gilding were done by the famous Pargotti. The great hall was painted by Bellucci ; the pillars were of marble ; the stair-case was extremely fine ; and the steps were also of marble, every step being of one whole piece, about 22 feet in length. The avenue was spacious and majestic ; and as it gave you the view of two fronts, joined, as it were, in one, the distance not admitting you to see the angle, which was in the centre ; so you were induced to think the front of the house almost twice as large as it was," &c.

The chapel before-mentioned called Whitchurch (which is still remaining as a church to the neighbouring hamlet) is a "singularity both in its building and the beauty of its ornaments. The Duke at one time maintained there a full choir, and had the worship performed with the best music after the manner of the chapel royal." It cannot indeed be denied that this nobleman was superb and magnificent in his manner of living even to a fault, but it proceeded from the overflowings of a generous and munificent heart, he was the patron of literature, and the arts. He purchased, and in this place preserved Sir James Ware's valuable collection of MSS, which belonged to the Earl of Clarendon, when Lord Lieutenant of Ireland. Calumny says, that much of the fortune he expended in this magnificent mode of living, he had gotten by his place of paymaster of the forces during the reign of Queen Anne. It is probable there may be some foundation for this. For certain it is that his father succeeded collaterally to the ancient barony of his family, without the estate that had formerly been annexed to it, at the time that he and the immediate ancestors of his branch, were living as country gentlemen (with only the title of Baronet) in their sequestered castle upon the banks of the Wye, in Herefordshire. His paternal inheritance therefore, could hardly supply him with much of the immense sums that he squandered.

It is with indignation that I mention, that Pope, notwithstanding the Duke's general munificence and encouragement to literature, nay more, notwithstanding his particular hospitality, patronage, and even a present of 1000*l.* to him, could mean nobody else than the Duke in his description of Timon, and no other place than this in that of Timon's Villa—The reproach which this unwarrantable attack brought upon Pope, made him try every means to evade it ; but in vain ; the picture was too clear to be mistaken ; after various and fruitless dissimulations, he at length sought by an exculpatory letter, to assuage the anger of the Duke : who handsomely forgave what he could not forget,
in

in an answer written with great magnanimity to this effect, "That to have ridiculed his taste or his buildings had been an indifferent action in another man, but that in Pope, after the reciprocal kindness that had been exchanged between them, it had been less easily excused."

I shall here take the liberty of transcribing the passage, though long, not only because it has a peculiar relation to this place, but because we must all (if we can forget for a moment the ingratitude of Pope) much admire it, as one of the most highly finished, and best passages in his works.*

At Timon's villa let us pass a day,
Where all cry out, "what fums are thrown away!"
So proud, so grand; of that stupendous air,
Soft and agreeable come never there.
Greatness, with Timon, dwells in such a draught,
As brings all Brobdignag before your thought.
To compass this, his building is a town,
His pond an ocean, his parterre a down;
Who but must laugh, the master when he sees,
A puny insect, shivering at a breeze?
Lo, what huge heaps of littleness around!
The whole, a labour'd quarry above ground;
Two Cupids squirt before: a lake behind
Improves the keenness of the northern wind.
His gardens next your admiration call,
On every side you look, behold the wall!
No pleasing intricacies intervene;
No artful wildness to perplex the scene;
Grove nods at grove, each alley has a brother,
And half the platform just reflects the other.
The suffering eye, inverted nature sees,
Trees cut to statues, statues thick as trees;
With here a fountain, never to be play'd;
And there a summer-house that knows no shade;
Here Amphitrite sails thro' myrtle bowers;
There gladiators fight, or die in flowers;
Unwater'd see the drooping sea-horse mourn,
And swallows roost in Nilus' dusty urn.
My lord advances with majestic mien,
Smit with the mighty pleasure to be seen:
But soft—by regular approach—not yet,—
First thro' the length of yon hot terrace sweat;
And when up ten steep slopes you've dragg'd your thighs,
Just at his study door he'll bless your eyes.
His study! with what authors is it stor'd?
In books, not authors, curious is my lord;
To all their dated backs he turns you round;
These Aldus printed, those Du Sueil has bound.
Lo, some are vellum, and the rest as good
For all his lordship knows, but they are wood.
For Locke or Milton, 'tis in vain to look,
These shelves admit not any modern book.
And now the chapel's silver bell you hear,
That summons you to all the pride of prayer;
Light quirks of music, broken and uneven,
Make the soul dance upon a jig to heaven.
On painted cielings you devoutly stare,
Where sprawl the saints of Verrio or Laguerre;
Or gilded clouds in fair expansion lie,
And bring all Paradise before your eye.

* Fourth of his Moral Epistles, verse 99.—It was first published I believe as a separate poem, 1731.

To rest, the cushion and soft dean invite,
 Who never mentions hell to ears polite.
 But hark! the chiming clocks to dinner call;
 A hundred footsteps scrape the marble hall:
 The rich buffet well colour'd serpents grace,
 And gaping Tritons spew to wash your face.
 Is this a dinner? this a genial room?
 No, 'tis a temple, and a Hecatomb.
 A solemn sacrifice perform'd in state,
 You drink by measure, and to minutes eat.
 So quick retires each flying course, you'd swear
 Sancho's dread doctor and his wand were there.
 Between each act the trembling salvers ring,
 From soup to sweet wine, and God blefs the king.
 In plenty starving, tantaliz'd in state,
 And complaisantly help'd to all-I hate,
 Treated, carefs'd, and tir'd, I take my leave,
 Sick of his civil pride from morn to eve;
 I curse such lavish cost, and little skill,
 And swear no day was ever past so ill.
 Yet hence the poor are cloath'd, the hungry fed;
 Health to himself, and to his infants bread,
 The labourer bears; what his hard heart denies,
 His charitable vanity supplies.
 Another age shall see the golden ear
 Imbrown the slope, and nod on the parterre,
 Deep harvest bury all his pride has plann'd,
 And laughing Ceres reassume the land.

Pope's ill-natured prophecy was alas! too soon fulfilled. The Duke died* August 9th 1744, and "this large and costly palace by a fate as transient as its owner's" was levelled with the ground by public auction 1747, "and as if" (says Mr. Walpole,) "in mockery of sublunary grandeur, the scite and materials were purchased by Hallet the cabinet-maker."

I have heard that by the sale of the materials of the house, he not only repaid himself the purchase-money of the whole estate, but built the present villa. But this ill-fated place has since been subject to a yet greater degradation. †It has been sold to O'Kelly, the famous champion of the turf, and since his death, is still occupied by his family—Part of the grand avenue is yet remaining and the ground around it has now some traces of a fine park. The chapel at Whitchurch still continues the burial place of the Chandos family.

More northward and nearer London, are seen two beautiful hills, Hampstead and Highgate, which for situation, air and prospect are justly admired. From Hampstead-heath the circular view is beautiful and extensive, commanding much of the country towards Northampton, and far into the county of Essex eastward. Over the wide extend-

* His widow died at Shaw Hall by Newbury, in Berks, (since the seat of Sir Joseph Andrews). His son Henry Duke of Chandos, resided at Biddleston, in Hants, where he died 1771—and his son James, the present Duke, has his principal seat at Avington, Hants.

† Mr. Hallet, the grandson, who sold Cannons, has realized in 1787, a large estate in Berkshire—He has bought the Dunch estate and mansion (of which, being old, he means to retain only part as a sporting box) at Wittenham; an estate that had been for more than two centuries in that ancient and respectable family. He has also bought the seat and estate at Farringdon, of Mr. Pye, the Member for Berkshire, whose family also has possessed these, for more than 200 years. Thus ancient families become extinct or fall to decay. And trade and the fluctuation of human affairs have at one moment thrown into the hands of one man, a property which supported two families in respectability at the head of their country for a long and important period of our history.

ing city, the eye is carried with a pleasing sight of Black-heath; Shooter's-hill, &c. into Kent. South-east, the opposite beauties of Suffex-hills, and the richly crowded Richmond are very striking; and to the west, the majestic castle of Windsor rises uninterrupted.

The greatest adjacent beauties of this delightful village are Caen Wood, the noble seat of Earl Mansfield, and Fitzroy Farm, the elegant villa of Lord Southampton. The former, besides containing several excellent apartments, which do credit to the taste of Mr. Adam, the architect, and his noble employer, has round it the advantages of nature heightened by every improvement of art and judgment. The sloping lawns, and verdant swells surrounded by waving groups of rich foliage, captivate every beholder. A sweeter spot could not be well contrived, for the retirement and indulgence of that body, and that mind, fatigued with the drudgery and employments of the law. And how much must its vicinity to the seat of his judicial exertions have increased its value! Our approach to the back front was by a narrow road at the bottom of Highgate-hill, which brought us amidst inclosures as sequestered as possible, to the gate of the grounds in the bottom; here are two or three unaffected pieces of water, which add greatly to the ruralness of the scene, and from hence we enjoyed a full view of the house, embosomed in woods, and fancied ourselves as much hid in country retirement, as if we had been far distant from the metropolis.

We next made an excursion through the east part of Middlesex to see Wansted-house, situated on the edge of Essex and Epping forests.

Iseldon, commonly called Islington, through which we now passed, was formerly esteemed so pleasantly seated, that in 1581 Queen Eliz. on an evening rode out that way to take the air;* where, near the town, she was invironed with a number of beggars, which gave the Queen much disturbance. Whereupon Mr. Stone, one of her footmen, came in all haste to the Lord Mayor, and afterwards to Fleetwood the recorder, and told them of it. The same night the recorder sent out warrants into those quarters, and into Westminster, and the Dutchy, and in the morning he went abroad himself, and took that day seventy-four rogues, whereof some were blind, and yet great usurers, and very rich. They were sent to Bridewell and punished.†

This road is one continued scene of streets and villages, that surround the populous town of Hackney, where opulence is largely displayed in many elegant villas, which every where bespangle the neighbourhood, till their lustre becomes eclipsed by our approach to this magnificent seat and lordship called Wanstead-house, and park, which deserves particular notice, both as to its ancient and present state. It belonged by grant from Edward VI. 1549, to Robert Lord Rich, then Lord Chancellor, from which post he retired, 5. Edward VI. and died 1566.

Queen Elizabeth visited this place in one of her progresses, 14th July, 1561. It was in those days the estate of Robert Earl of Leicester, that Queen's favourite, who built very much upon it. After his death it came to the crown, and King James 1st, gave it to Sir Henry Mildmay, son of Sir Walter Mildmay, when he married the daughter of Sir Leonard Holiday, Knight, Alderman of London, who settled it upon his lady; but Sir Henry acting as one of the judges against King Charles 1st, forfeited all his estate by that notorious act of treason; upon which this seat and manor was granted away from his heirs, and sold to Sir Josiah Child, a merchant of London, who built the present

* Of an old building in this town, which is still called Queen Elizabeth's lodge, a representation is given, with two views of Canonbury-house in the same neighbourhood, in Queen Elizabeth's progresses, vol. 2. p. 200.

† Strype's Survey of London, vol. 2d. b. 4. p. 61.

noble fabric, and was grandfather to the late Lord Tilney, whose nephew, Sir James Long, is now in possession of it.

Having entered the iron gates into the park, which seems a small inclosure of the great forest, the road winds circularly on each side a very large basin of water, in a shade of beautiful elms; this perhaps may be thought too formal for modern taste, but the mind is too much engaged in contemplating the grandeur of this noble palace in front, to be displeased with any trifling defects. As you draw near, its beauties become more distinct, and the stile of architecture more striking; the whole is of Portland stone, and is esteemed, with justice, one of the most beautiful and magnificent private houses in Europe.

The entrance to this principal front, is by a fine flight of steps on each side, and grand portico of eight Corinthian pillars, supporting a rich pediment, in which are the Tilney arms finely sculptured. There are twenty windows on a floor, which convey an idea of great length, but the whole seems so truly proportioned, well elevated, and light, that it is impossible to view it without admiration; Mr. Colin Campbell was the architect, who, by the execution of this noble structure, has given hints to succeeding artists, but has never been rivalled by any imitations.

We now went to examine the interior decorations, which are said to possess all the elegance and splendor of their time, and thought ourselves very fortunate to gain admittance, as Saturday is the only part of the week on which it is shewn. The hall is very magnificent, its dimensions 53 feet by 45 and 40. The walls are ornamented by three fine historical paintings; Coriolanus and his mother; Porfenna; and Pompey taking leave of his family; all by Cassali. The ceiling is richly gilt and painted by Kent. To give further grandeur to this room, there are two large statues from the ruins of Herculaneum; one a very valuable representation of Livia, the wife of king Agrippa, the drapery of which is greatly admired; the other is Domitian.

On each side of this grand entrance are several small suites of rooms adorned with good pictures, and some historical tapestry; the principal, are St. Francis and a holy family, by Guido: a Virgin Mary, and Herod's daughter holding the head of St. John, by Titian (supposed); a very beautiful small painting of the Virgin, our Saviour, and St. John, by Raphael. Two admirable fruit pieces, &c. and an excellent Cupid, by Corregio. The pencil of Kent has also adorned several of these ceilings. But the gallery or ball-room, which occupies one end of the house, is superlatively magnificent, its dimensions are 75 by 27, and proportionably high. The furniture, &c. is richly gilt and embossed; the tapestry, story of Telemachus, inimitable; over the chimney is an admirable painting of Portia, the wife of Brutus, by Schalken, who has given the finest effect of light from a lamp, I ever saw. The habitable apartments on the back front are the best and largest; the principal of which are the anti-chamber, 40 feet by 27, hung with excellent tapestry; the saloon, 30 feet square, richly gilt and embossed; and the best dining-room 40 feet by 27, with historical paintings by Cassali. The views from some of these apartments are very extensive and beautiful; and where splendor and show are such principal objects, one seldom meets with so excellent a combination of magnificence and convenience. The gardens and pleasure grounds are very extensive and beautiful, delightfully shaded, and adorned with water; near which the late Lord formed a most curious grotto, the mere workmanship of which, exclusive of the very valuable materials, cost 2000*l*. At the entrance is a splendid artificial anti-room, which leads to the principal object of our enquiries, large enough to entertain a company of 20, and judiciously adorned with every variety of shells, fossils, petrifications, &c. not

only to attract the notice of visitors in general, but the admiration of naturalists and virtuosos.

To the south-east of London across the Thames, we find an agreeable ride in the vicinity of Blackheath. Greenwich-park and hospital are greatly to be admired: the one for its beautiful extensive views, which have invited to a residence several crowned heads; the other for its costly edifice and laudable institution.

Greenwich, commonly distinguished by the name of East Greenwich, is situated on the margin of the Thames, and was called in Saxon, Grenavie, signifying the Green-town or dwelling. The royal hospital stands partly on the ground where once stood the royal palace, in which Mary and Elizabeth, the two queens, were born; and here King Edward the VI. died. This palace was built by Humphry, duke of Gloucester, brother to King Henry V. and by a grant from his nephew, Henry VI. he was empowered to erect a castle and inclose a park. The tower of this castle, which was placed on the highest part of the park, was finished by Henry VIII. but is now quite destroyed; an observatory was erected on this spot by King Charles II. for the use of an astronomer royal, and from one of those celebrated characters, Flamsteed, it took its present name of Flamsteed-house. King Charles II. also began the present superb hospital, and finished one wing for 36,000*l*. King William III. built the other wing; Queen Anne and King George I. continued the work, and King George II. finished this noble design.

The following anecdote, as queen Elizabeth was setting off in her progress into Essex, 1579, is recorded by Stow, and is a striking instance of her courage. The 17th of July, the queen's majesty being on the river Thames, between her highness's manor of Greenwich and Deptford, in her private barge, accompanied with the French ambassador, the earl of Lincoln, &c. with whom she entered into discourse about weighty affairs; it chanced that one Thomas Appletree and some others, being in a boat rowing up and down the same part of the river, he had a caliver or harquebuzze, with which he had discharged bullets, three or four times at random very rashly, and by great misfortune shot one of the watermen, labouring with his oar, (within six feet of her highness) clean through both his arms; the blow was so great and grievous, that it moved him from his seat, and forced him to cry out piteously, saying he was slain through the body. The man bleeding abundantly, the queen's majesty shewed such noble courage as is most wonderful to be heard and spoken of; she never bashed thereat, but bid him be of good cheer, and said, he should want nothing that might be for his ease, &c. &c. For which fact, the said Thomas being apprehended and condemned to death, was, on the 21st of July, brought to the water-side, where was a gibbet set up, directly placed between Deptford and Greenwich; and when the hangman had put a rope about his neck, he was by the queen's most gracious pardon, delivered from execution.

Not far from hence, the late Sir Gregory Page, baronet, (whose father was a brewer at Greenwich,) built a most costly and superb mansion, one of the largest private seats in England, which at his death, 1775, was bequeathed, with a large estate, to his nephew Sir Gregory Turner, of Ambroseden, in Oxfordshire, who has resided but little here; and finding, I imagine, so noble a place in the vicinity of town, rather an incumbrance than a convenience, all the furniture and inside decorations, but the bare stone walls, were sold by public auction, and nothing but the shell still remains. Thus are the noblest fabricks of men destroyed by the caprice or necessities of their posterity. Could they but unfold the dark volume of events, what mortification must they feel to think

think that their labours are so soon demolished, their costly palaces laid low, and their glories buried in oblivion.

Near this is a charming situation much frequented, where the archers used to perform their exercises upon particular occasions, and frequently in the presence of sovereigns: whence it took its name of Shooter's-hill.

We now proceeded on our tour, August 26th, through the remaining part of Middlesex, more familiarly known by the name of the Uxbridge road. On our left, for some time we have a view of Hyde-park and Kensington-gardens; the former, remarkable for its noble sheet of water, the Serpentine river, and other pleasing charms; the latter, for their beautiful walks, and ornaments designed by Queen Mary, and improved and greatly enlarged by Queen Anne and Caroline. The palace was originally an old mansion of the earl of Nottingham, bought and enlarged by King William, but of late years little honoured with a royal residence. Farther on, we view the back of Holland-house, built by Sir Walter Cope, master of the court of wards, in the reign of James I. whose daughter and heir, Isabel, by the interest of the court, carried it in marriage to Henry Rich, earl of Holland. It at present belongs to Henry Fox, who takes his title of baron from thence. It is beautifully situated on an eminence; the ground, which is of a fine verdure, falls in gentle declivities; and the trees are grouped with a pleasing effect.

The next remarkable object is the noble structure of Gunnersbury-house, which was built by Inigo Jones, and was the seat of Sir John Maynard Knight, one of the commissioners of the great seal in the reign of William III. It afterwards belonged to Mr. Furness, and was bought by the late Princess Amelia of his executors, and since her death sold by public auction. It is situated between Acton and the great western road, with the principal front to the latter. Though the external part shews some of the bold and simple graces of that great master, yet the apartments are by no means adequate to this idea. The hall and saloon are the most magnificent rooms; the latter, a double cube of 25 feet, and superbly furnished. The rest are very inferior; not sufficiently large, nor well adapted for a place of state, nor convenient enough for private comforts. From the portico, which is grand and elevated, but too large, engrossing most of the front, the prospect is beautiful, and the adjacent grounds, are well adorned and modernized.

Betwixt this and the neatly formed village of Ealing, is another noble house belonging to the duke of Argyle, but the situation is too flat, and the whole too much concealed to attract much notice.

About two miles farther we deviated a small distance to the left, to see the magnificent structure of Osterley-house, built in a park by Sir Thomas Gresham. Though Sir Thomas had purchased very large estates in several counties of England, yet he thought a country seat near London, to which he might retire from business, and the hurry of the city, as often as he pleased, would be very convenient. With this view he bought this place, and here he built a very large and splendid seat, at which he sumptuously entertained Queen Elizabeth, about 1577. Her majesty found fault with the court of this house, as too great, affirming that it would appear more handsome if divided with a wall in the middle; upon which Sir Thomas, in the night time sends for workmen to London, (money commands all things) who so speedily and silently apply their business, that the next morning discovered the court double, which was only single the night before. It is questionable whether the queen next day was more contented with the conformity to her fancy, or more pleased with the surprize and sudden performance thereof; whilst her courtiers disported themselves with their several expressions; some avowing

avowing it was no wonder he could so soon "change a building," who could "build a change;" others (reflecting upon some known differences in this knight's family) affirmed that a house is easier divided than united.* This seat is thus described by Norden: "Osterley, or Oysterley, the house now of the ladie Gresham's; a faire and stately building of bricke, erected by Sir Thomas Gresham, knt citizen and merchant-adventurer of London, and finished about 1577. It standeth in a parke by him also impaled, well wooded, and garnished with manie faire ponds, which afforded not only fishe and fowle, as swanes and other water fowle, but also great use for milles, as paper-milles, oyle-milles, and corne-milles, all which are now decayed (a corne-mille excepted.) In the same parke was a very faire heronrie, for the increase and preservation whereof, fundry allurements were devised and set up, fallen to ruine." "Sir Thomas was so good a manager, that he knew how to make the best use of his pleasures, and even to render them profitable, as appears by the mills erected by him in this park. But no sooner was he gone, than this fine seat began to fall to decay, which has passed through severall handst, since his time, and is now in the possession of Sir Francis Child, alderman of London, and member of Middlesex." Thus far have we its former state, from Ward's life of Gresham, p. 17.

Let us now view its present condition in the possession of Mrs. Child, widow of Mr. Child, an eminent banker in London, descended from Sir Francis. The park is near five miles round, well watered and planted, but too much upon a flat; deer are pretty numerous, and on one side is a most elegant menagerie, with a choice and large collection of birds. The house stands nearly in the centre, is built in the form of an half H, with an immense portico in front, through which you enter, by steps, to the court leading to the hall. This room is the grand entrance, it measures 63 feet long, and is otherwise proportionable; the apartments are mostly large and convenient, and made elegant by the taste of Mr. Adam, the architect, and Zucchi, the painter, who was first employed here on his arrival into England; he has since distributed the graces of his pencil in many parts of the kingdom, particularly in the noble house of Mr. Lascelles, at Harewood, in Yorkshire. The collection of paintings here are the admiration of most visitors, and contain some of the finest strokes of many excellent masters. On the ceiling of the stair-case, is the apotheosis of William, prince of Orange, who was assassinated at Delft, by Ballages Gerrard, 1584; painted by Rubens. The breakfast-room, good common size, unadorned, except by some tolerable pictures. The library is very handsome, 33 feet by 25. Dining-room is 36 by 24; here the exertions of Zucchi, &c. are beautifully conspicuous. The gallery is one of the noblest private rooms I ever saw. Its dimensions, 136 feet by 27, and elegantly furnished, but more particularly with those enchanting subjects of contemplation, which usually adorn such noble walls; amongst which I had time to remark, with the assistance of a catalogue, two full-sized pieces, at the extremities of the room, of Charles I. on horseback, with the duke de Pernon holding his helmet, by Vandyke; the other, Villiers, duke of Buckingham, by Rubens. A charming landscape of gipsies dressing their dinner, by Salvator Rosa; morning and evening, which display all that rich and soft colouring of their admirable painter, Claud Lorrain; also two others of the same size, with the Angel and Tobit; Apollo and the Sybil, by S. Rosa; two more fine landscapes, by Gaspar Poussin; Lord Strafford, by Vandyke; Cain killing Abel, by Late; Jonas and the Whale, S. Rosa; Constantine's arch, with figures and cattle, by Viviano and

* Fuller's Worthies, Middlesex, 177.

† This was the seat of the famous Parliament-General, Sir William Waller.

Bombaccio; the lights and shades on the building are very clear and beautiful. The drawing-room answers to the dining-parlour in size; here are two pieces, Jacob and Rachael, and Samuel anointing David, by Titian; Vandyke's head, by himself, thought to be an original. Beyond this are three square rooms, called the French, English, and Italian; the first distinguished by most exquisite tapestry, of the richest French manufacture, interspersed with several of Mr. Child's favourite birds; the second by a magnificent state-bed and furniture; the last by curious Italian paper. The views from the several windows are picturesque, and from Mrs. Child's elegant dressing-room, the prospect towards Hampstead is very fine.

From hence to Uxbridge the country is very flat and unpleasant, nothing but the distant view of Harrow on the hill to attract the eye, which is an agreeable object for many miles; those however who are fond of the business of agriculture, may shake off the general dulness by an attention to the nature and improvement of the soil, which is peculiarly rich. Heston parish, adjoining to Osterley, is described by Norden, (p. 15.) as "a most fertile place of wheate, yet not so much to be commended for the quantitie as the qualitie; for the wheat is most pure, accompted the purest in many shires; and therefore Queen Elizabeth hath the most part of her provision from that place for manchet for her highness's diet, as is reported."

In the neighbourhood of Hays, are found two kinds of soil: one very heavy, and the other light turnip-land. The former they use chiefly for wheat and beans; but sow them in a course peculiar to themselves; they fallow for wheat, and after that sow beans; whereas in land strong enough to yield those crops, beans should be the fallow, by means of a thorough good cleaning, and wheat succeed them; which is the practice in the richest parts of Essex. Very few oats or barley are sown in these heavy tracts; in the lighter ones their method is, 1. turnips; 2. barley, or, 3. clover; 4. wheat; than which none can be better.*

Between Hillingdon and Uxbridge, on the right is a white house, pleasingly situated, and well adorned with wood, the ground falling in gentle declivities around it. It lately belonged to Mrs. Talbot, aunt, I believe, of Lord Talbot, but is now inhabited by the marchioness of Rockingham.

Farther on the right, before we came to Uxbridge, we left Harefield, once famous for the residence of the countess of Derby, before whom Milton's *Arcades* was there presented. Norden, as cited by Mr. Warton,† thus describes it in his *Speculum Britanniae* (about 1590.) "There Sir Edmund Anderson, knt. lord chief justice of the Common Pleas, hath a faire house, standing on the edge of the hill. The river Colne passing neere the same, thro' the pleasant meddowes and sweet pastures, yealding both delight and profit." I viewed this house (adds Mr. Warton) a few years ago, when it was for the most part remaining in its original state. Milton, when he wrote *Arcades*, was still living with his father at Horton, near Colnbrooke, in the same neighbourhood.‡

Uxbridge is a small market town. In Leland's time it consisted of one long street, built of timber. The church is only a chapel of ease to Hillingdon, a proof it is not very ancient. In Camden's time it was full of inns; those which it has at present are very indifferent, particularly, when we consider its propinquity to London. It gives the title of earl, to lord Paget, whose ancestors had a seat, called Drayton, in this

* Young's Six Weeks Tour, p. 81, 82.

† In his Edition of Milton's Juvenile Poems, p. 96.

‡ This lady Derby afterwards married lord chancellor Egerton, for whose son, John earl of Bridgewater, Milton wrote his *Comus*.

neighbourhood. We stopt to dine at the principal inn, the Crown, and afterwards entered the county of Bucks, pursuing the Oxford road about three miles.

Far on our left hand lay Stoke Pogeis, which anciently belonged to the family of Pogeis, whose heiress in Edward III's time marrying lord Molines, he in the 5th of that king's reign, obtained a licence to make a castle of his manor-house here. From him it descended to the lords Hungerford, and from them to the Hastings's, earls of Huntingdon. Edward Hastings, created by Queen Mary, lord Loughborough, was buried in the chapel here of his own erection, and many others of the Molines's, Hungerfords, and Hastings's, were buried in the church. This mansion seems afterwards to have belonged to lord chancellor Hatton. The mother of Mr. Gray, the poet, had a small house in this parish, and here that incomparable genius spent many days of the earlier part of his life. And the mansion before mentioned was the scene of that beautiful poem of his, called the Long Story, which opens with the following excellent description of this, and all other seats of that age.

In Britain's isle no matter where,
An ancient pile of building stands,
The Huntingdons and Hattons there,
Employed the power of Fairy hands.

To raise the cieling's fretted height,
Each pannel in atchievements cloathing,
Rich windows that exclude the light,
And passages that lead to nothing.

Fall oft within the spacious walls
When he had fifty winters o'er him,
My brave Lord keeper* led the brawls,
The seal and maces danc'd before him.

His bushy beard, and shoe-strings green,
His high-crown'd hat and satin doublet,
Mov'd the stout heart of England's Queen,
Tho' Pope and Spaniard could not trouble it.

Lady Cobham then resided here. I cannot help here observing what sacred ground we were now upon. Milton resided long at Horton in this neighbourhood before mentioned. Waller lived at Beaconsfield, as we shall presently have occasion to notice. Pope long dwelt no great distance from hence, at Binfield in Windsor Forest, and Stoke-Pogeis was much frequented by the sublime, and the pathetic Gray. I must here break out in the words of one of these authors.

"I seem thro' consecrated walks to rove,
"I hear soft music die along the grove,
"Led by the sound I roam from shade to shade,
"By godlike poets venerable made."†

We now left the Oxford road, and took another through an agreeable valley and excellent road, on our way to Amer sham. About five miles beyond Uxbridge, at a distance on our left, we passed Bulstrode-park, the paternal seat of the duke of Port-

* Hatton preferred by Queen Elizabeth for his graceful person, and fine dancing.

† Pope's Windsor Forest, verse 265.

land. The park is extensive, well planted, and varied with perpetual swells and slopes, though in the midst of a flat country. This had formerly been the seat of a family of its own name, who had been of much consideration in this county, since the reign of Edward IV. of which the heiress was mother of Sir Bulstrode Whitlocke, one of Cromwell's lords, a man well known, who after the restoration retiring to Chilton-park, in Wilts, lived there in great retirement, and died at that place July 28, 1675. This seat afterwards belonged to the infamous lord chancellor Jeffreys, by whose attainder at the revolution it fell to the crown, and thence came by grant to William, the first earl of Portland, who came over from Holland with William III. and died here 1709. Thence passing on through the same agreeable valley we left Beaconsfield still further on the left, made immortal by the birth and residence of Waller the poet, whose family now continue there in opulence, and by the present habitation of the celebrated Edmund Burke, at Gregories, another house once belonging to the Wallers.

On our right we left Cheneys, formerly the seat of a family of that name, of very long continuance in this country, but afterwards the principal seat of the Russels, earls of Bedford, when they first had footing in these parts, at the time they were raised to the peerage, and an immense estate, of church-lands, in that harvest of fortunes, the dissolution of monasteries. It still belongs to the family (who seem never to have been squanderers) though Woburne Abbey, in Bedfordshire, is now their chief seat.

Amersham is an ancient market-town, which sent members to parliament, as early as the reign of Edward I. Leland, in Henry VIIIth's time, calls it pretty, and says, it then consisted of a street well built with timber, and had a market on Friday. It had belonged to Stafford, duke of Buckingham, and on his attainder fell to the king, and in this writer's time was granted to lord Russel; the place cannot now boast either of buildings or of populousness. We slept at the Griffin, the best house the place affords, but of indifferent accommodations. The next morning we continued up the same delightful valley, and passed Shardeloes, in this parish, the seat of Mr. Drake. This seat in 1431, belonged to Henry Brudenell, esq. ancestor to the earls of Cardigan, and duke of Montague, &c. This, and the manor of Raans, in this parish, they continued to possess for several generations, and were buried in a chapel appropriate to these manors, of Amersham-church; particularly as Leland mentions, Edmund Brudenell, father of Sir Robert, chief justice of the Common Pleas, 1520, and Drew Brudenell, his elder brother. Sir Robert being a younger brother settled at Dean, in Northamptonshire, the present seat of his descendant lord Brudenell. The Drakes have been settled at Shardeloes for about 150 years at least*. The old seat was a noble one, and remarkable for its fine gardens. The present Mr. Drake has rebuilt it in a manner much admired, but it does not seem to make a great figure from the road. The park and grounds are beautiful; the gentle swells of rich verdure crowned with groups of charming foliage, and the lawn falling gradually to the water's side, form the most picturesque assemblage one can well conceive. The channel of this water, which is well formed by nature for the purpose, only wants properly cleansing, to make the scene quite compleat. The borough of Amersham belongs to Mr. Drake, who, and his eldest son, are the present members; the patronage of the rectory also belongs to him, which is very valuable. I had almost forgot to mention, that the parsonage-house appears advantageously on the hill above the town, the present incumbent doctor John

* Sir William Drake, of Shardeloes, was created a baronet July 17, 1641. The present family are collateral to him. Arms, Argt. a Wyvern Gules, same as those of Ash. Co. Devon.

Drake, the worthy patron's third son. About two miles onward on our right, we left Chesham Boys, formerly the seat of the Cheney, a very ancient family in this county, of whom William was created by Charles II. in 1681, viscount Newhaven of Scotland. I think it is mentioned by lord Clarendon in his own life, that when Bennet, one of the famous cabal in Charles II.'s reign was to be created a peer, he was hesitating what title to take, having no estates nor any ancient alliances, on the name of which to fix. At length he chose the title of Cheney, as he thought it sounded both pleasing and ancient; however, before the patent was completed, this matter came to the ear of Mr. Cheney of Bucks. He posted to town, gained admittance to the peer elect, and remonstrated with him in very warm terms, upon his intending to assume a title with which he had no connection, at a time that another was living who was the representative of that name, and had some pretensions to obtaining the title; at first he was treated with contempt, but Mr. Bennet soon discovered the consequence, and the fair claims of the person whom he had thus treated, and then begged his pardon, gave up the title, and fixed upon Harlington, the name of a small village where his father had lived, in Middlesex, only leaving out the H, for the sake of a better sound. The Cheney's are now extinct. Behind Chesham is Latimers, formerly the fair seat of Sir Edwyn Sandys, of the Worcestershire family, who married the heiress of lord Sandys of the Vine, in Hants; in consequence of which his descendants succeeded to that title, it being a barony in fee, dormant ever since about 1700. It is now the seat of lord George Cavendish, brother to the duke of Devonshire.

We continued still in this pleasing confined valley, whose hills are sometimes crowned with extensive woods, particularly of beech. The soil abounds with chalk, and all this country is called Chiltern, from the Saxon word chilt. Hence we passed through Great Missenden, where we saw the ruins of the abbey, (now only a farmhouse), founded, as Camden says, by the Doillies, but according to others, by the Missendens, in 1293, or perhaps not till 1335. It has lately been bought by Mr. Oldham, the ironmonger, of Holborn.

About three miles on the left of this we had a view of Great Hampden, the seat of the Hampdens, a most ancient family, by some said to be Saxon, and certainly a most extraordinary one. In the reign of Edward III. they were very opulent, though their fortune is reported then to have received a great blow—For

“Tring, Wing, and Ivengo did go

“For striking the Black Prince a blow.”

In the last century this family made a very conspicuous figure, whether good or bad, I leave for others to discuss. They seem to have been unfortunate. The patriot was killed by the bursting of a pistol. His grandson put an end to his own life. His son in the post of paymaster, gamed with the public money in the South-Sea scheme, and lost no less than 95,000*l.* which swallowed up all his estate, except 1,100*l.* *per annum*, which was settled. He died S. P. His brother succeeded, and dying, 1754, (the last of the male line of his family,) bequeathed his name and estate to the honourable Robert Trevor, afterwards lord Trevor, created viscount Hampden, whose son, the present viscount Hampden, was now down at this seat.

We next passed through Wendover, a small mean market town, which, however, sends two members to parliament. Leland speaks of it as a pretty town in his time. He seems, however, to be conscious of its dirt, for he says, “there was a causey made to pass on, else it would be tedious travelling thro’ the low stiff clay.” It consists

mostly now of mean cottages, supported by the manual industry of lace-making, the principal manufacture of this county. Lord Trevor is the lord of the manor, and Earl Verney chief owner. The hills here swell into mountains, and the small coppices into large woods, inclining eastward into Bedfordshire, and south-west to Berkshire and Hants. Under these hills, to the right, stands Haulton house, an old seat, lately belonging to the last Lord Le Despencer, and now to his brother Sir John Dashwood King, Baronet.

We now descended into the rich vale of Ailesbury, an extensive champain country, famous for fattening cattle, and not less so for fine arable. Ailesbury is a considerable market town, situated on an eminence, which overlooks the surrounding flat. In the time of the Saxons this was a strong town, and a manor royal in that of William the Conqueror, who disposed of some of the lands, under the singular tenure of finding him litter and straw for his bed chamber, whenever he should come that way, and to provide him three eels in winter, and green geese in summer. This place owes much to the munificence of Lord Chief Justice Baldwin, who not only erected several public buildings, but raised an excellent causeway three miles in length, where the roads were deep and troublesome. By the marriage with his daughter and coheir, in the time of Henry VIII. the manor came to the Packingtons. The market place has the appearance of an old quadrangle of indifferent buildings; but the town hall is an handsome modern structure, where the assizes, and other business of the county, are held. The form of the church shews evident marks of antiquity, being built in the shape of a cross, with a small spire rising out of a low tower. This town has the honour of giving title of Earl to Thomas Bruce Brudenell, created Viscount Bruce of Tottenham, Wilts, April 17th, 1746, and Earl of Ailesbury, June 8th, 1776.

On the left of Ailesbury stands Eythrop, formerly belonging to the Dinhams, and from the reign of Queen Elizabeth, to the Dormers, Barons, and Earls of Caernarvon, from whose heiress it came to the Stanhopes, and belonged to the late Sir William, brother to the last Earl of Chesterfield. It belongs now, I believe, to the present Earl of Chesterfield. Beyond this stands upper Winchendon, formerly the seat of the Goodwins, Knights, from whom by an heiress it came to Philip Lord Wharton, whose son, Thomas Marquis of Wharton, a man well known in Queen Anne's reign, made it his chief residence, and adorned it with noble and magnificent buildings and gardens. I suppose it was sold or forfeited by his extravagant son, the most eccentric, and unaccountable, yet strangely brilliant Philip, Duke of Wharton, whose character Pope has delineated, with such a masterly hand in his characters of men.

Near Ailesbury also lies Chilton, famous for giving birth to that great lawyer, Sir George Croke. This reverend judge was descended from an illustrious family called Le Blount, who, during the contests between the houses of York and Lancaster, taking the part of the latter, were forced to conceal themselves under the name of Croke, till the accession of Henry VII. which they never after dropped. His father, Sir John Croke, was the first high sheriff appointed by Queen Elizabeth, after this county was divided from Bedfordshire. The judge, who was his third son, was made judge of the Common Pleas 22d of James, and on the death of that learned judge, Sir John Doderidge, he was advanced to his seat on the King's bench, 4th of Charles. After having filled this office with much credit, and much honor many years, he made a very handsome petition to the King for his writ of ease, which his Majesty granted in the most honorable manner. Soon after this, he made an holy retreat to his house at Waterstoke, in Oxfordshire; where in full assurance of Christ, he cheerfully resigned up his soul to him who gave it, on the 5th of February, 1641, and was buried in the chancel of that church,

church, where an handsome monument and inscription is erected to his memory. Near Chilton, is Wotton, the seat of the Grenvilles (now of Stowe) at least from the time of Henry I.

Close on our left from Ailesbury, we passed Quarendon, the ancient residence of the Lees, afterwards Earls of Lichfield, who took their second title from hence. They had a park here, with fine orchards in Leland's time. As an instance of the fertility of this vale, it is affirmed, that not long since, the pasture of Beryfield, part of the estate of Lord Robert Lee, in the manor of Quarendon, let for 80*cl.* a year; and that the lordship of Creslow, consisting only of 100 acres, is let for the same. We proceeded forward through a dreary country and bad roads, leaving on our right, Wing, formerly a religious house, and then granted to the Dormers, one of those families who rose by the dissolution of religious houses, though they have almost ever since continued papists. It came as Eythrop did, to Sir William Stanhope, who pulled down the seat here, which was built by Inigo Jones. Hence we arrived at Winslow, which King Offa gave to the monastery of St. Alban's, in a council held at Verulam, 794.

From this place we passed on towards Buckingham, leaving on our left, Middle Clayton, an house which the present Earl Verney (of an ancient family in this county), built at an immense expence, there being a profusion of costly carve work in it. Further on is Addington, once the seat of the Busbys: and someway on our right lay Whaddon Hall, the habitation, in early times of the Giffords, hereditary keepers of Whaddon chase; from whom it passed to the Pigots, and they sold it to the Lords Grey of Wilton, who lived before at Blechley, near adjoining. The last Lord Grey forfeited it in the reign of James I. being one of Sir Walter Raleigh's supposed accomplices; it was then granted to the favourite Villiers, Duke of Buckingham, of whose son Dr. Willis bought it, and from him it descended to Browne Willis, the antiquarian. We now proceeded through the same unpleasant country to Buckingham. This small county town is situated partly low and partly on the side of an hill, and almost surrounded by the river Ouse; but the church, which is a fine stone building, stands on a considerable eminence, so as to form an object from Stowe gardens. About ten years ago the old church fell in, and this modern fabrick was erected for 7000*l.* on the spot where originally stood the castle; for we read, that King Edward the Elder, about 918, fortified this town with a rampire and turrets on both sides the river, against the incursions of the Danes; and on a great mount was built a strong castle, formerly in the possession of Humphrey, Duke of Buckingham, but long since destroyed. Yet this place seems to have been inconsiderable at the conquest, as in the reign of Edward the Confessor, according to Doms-day book, it paid but for one hide, and had 26 burgeses. A fire in 1725, destroyed great part of the town; but this misfortune was not the cause of another phoenix rising from its ashes; the streets and buildings are still irregular and bad. A handsome town hall has indeed been finished about four years. The manufacture of lace is yet flourishing, as well as at Ailesbury, &c. but Newport is the principal seat of this art; which I imagined would have been much injured by the patent frame work, at Nottingham; still the notable and industrious find a good subsistence by it in these parts.

From the Cobham Arms, where we had been well entertained, we proceeded to visit Stowe, the noble ornament of this place, and county, mostly indebted to the taste and spirit of the great Lord Cobham, and afterwards to the late Earl Temple his nephew. Stowe was formerly part of the possessions of Osney Abbey, and belonged to the bishop of that place, when Henry VIII. on the dissolution, erected the abbey into a cathedral;

but that capricious monarch soon changing his mind, removed the foundation to Christchurch; and Stowe followed the fortune of the abbey, till Queen Elizabeth, having taken the estates into her hands, on a vacancy of the see of Oxford, granted this manor and estate in 1590, to John Temple, Esquire*, a gentleman of a very ancient family, seated at Temple-hall, in Leicestershire. A park of about 200 acres, was inclosed by his descendant, Sir Peter Temple; whose son, Sir Richard, after the restoration, rebuilt the manor house, and settled 50*l.* a year on the vicarage; which, in the hands of the abbots, had been very poorly endowed. This gentleman's son was created Baron Cobham, 1714, by George I. and in 1718, Viscount Cobham, with a collateral remainder to his second sister Hester, wife of Richard Grenville, Esq. of Wotton, in this county. She, upon the death of Lord Cobham, S. P. 1749, succeeded to these titles, and was created Countess Temple a month after her brother's death. Hence this family of Grenville, which had been of ancient standing at Wotton, succeeded to this mansion, estate and title. But this seems to have been hard upon Lord Cobham's eldest sister Mary, who was cut off from her hopes at least, if not her right, for having married, without consent his Lordship's chaplain, Dr. West, whose birth could be no disgrace to such an alliance, as he was a descendant of the noble family of Delawar. Nor was the issue of this match less conspicuous by personal powers and accomplishments, than by birth. Every body has heard of the able and the amiable poet, Gilbert West, of whom Dr. Johnson says, "that a stroke of the palsy, in 1755, brought to the grave one of the few poets, to whom the grave might be without its terrors."† Lord Cobham was the person who laid out the lawns, who planted the groves, and erected the buildings. He seems to have cared over the house, which his father built, and to have added the corridors, and the wings, so as to form the North-West, (which is now) the old front. The grounds were then laid out with that regularity, which was, at that time, wonderfully admired. The buildings were most of them seen together; and as art was the characteristic of the gardens of those times, Stowe was then the delight of the age. Hence a prejudice has gone abroad, that it is formal and old fashioned; but this is ill founded. Stowe has altered with the times. And these grounds have undergone the reforming hand of Browne, the great genius of modern gardening, who was first brought up in the service of this family. Under his nurturing care the woods have grown (and are every day growing) to conceal and soften the buildings. And as to architecture, Wyatt, the genius of the present days, has added, at the expence of the late Earl Temple, a new front to the south east, with a superb suite of apartments, in a stile of beauty and magnificence, that can scarcely be equalled in the kingdom.

Our approach to the large Corinthian arch, situated on an eminence about half a mile from the house, gave us a full view of the garden front, or new façade finished by Wyatt. We could here only admire this majestic pile, and its verdant surrounding beauties without being able to inspect them minutely. The garden gates were now opened to us, and we walked the whole extent, near 400 acres, amidst groves and temples, and meandering streams, that seemed like the visionary enchantments created by the fancy of poets. "Though some of the buildings (says Walpole) particularly those

* The Peerages say that Peter Temple, the father of this John, was the first who settled at Stowe, and this is asserted upon the picture of Peter Temple, as printed in the Guides; perhaps, he might lease it from the Crown. The account in the text is taken from Willis's History of the Hundred of Buckingham, the best authority. Upon the death of Viscount Cobham S. P. the title of Baronet went to a distant collateral branch, who now enjoy it.

† Admiral West was another son, who married a daughter of Admiral Balchen. His widow and one of his sons, a captain in the navy, and the widow and issue of another son, are now living in London.

of Vanbrugh and Gibbs, are far from beautiful, yet the rich landscapes occasioned by the multiplicity of temples and obelisks, and the various pictures that present themselves as we shift our situation, occasion surprise and pleasure, sometimes recalling Albano's landscapes to our mind, and oftener to our fancy the idolatrous, and luxurious vales of Daphne and Tempe. It is just to add, that the improvements made by lord Temple have profited of the present perfect style of architecture and gardening. The temple of Concord and Victory presiding over so noble a valley, the great arch designed by Mr. T. Pitt, and a smaller in honour of Princess Amelia, disclosing a wonderfully beautiful perspective over the Elysian fields to the Palladian bridge, and up to the castle on the hill, are monuments of taste, and scenes, that I much question if Tempe or Daphne exhibited."

Having viewed the principal * objects and external beauties of this delightful place, in a round of between three and four hundred acres, we now approached the new front, and proceeded to inspect its internal grandeur and decorations. A flight of 31 steps, designed in a masterly manner, leads up to the grand portico of six Corinthian pillars, the pediment is plain and handsome, and the whole of the centre building of exquisite workmanship, wrought with various medallions and effigies. The pavillions too are no less conspicuous in beauty and ornament. In the recesses of the Loggia, we observed two very fine antiques, a Cybele and a Juno in white marble, the drapery exceedingly beautiful. We now entered the saloon, a most elegant oval, lighted by a central dome. Its dimensions are 60 by 43, and 56. The ceiling is divided into a multiplicity of highly decorated compartments. The cornice is of the Doric order; above is a magnificent alto-relievo, designed and executed by Signior Valdrè, an artist brought here by the Marquis. The cornice is supported by 16 columns in Scaiola, representing Sicilian jasper, by Signor Bartoli, the lustre of which appears at present superior to real marble. The pavement is of fine Massa Carrara marble, cut in four feet squares. This noble room is intended to be illuminated with sixteen magnificent crystal lights, &c. which when quite complete will be most superb. The hall designed and painted by Kent, is in the old part, and the grand entrance of the north-west front. Its dimensions are 36 by 22 and 26. The ceiling is adorned with a curious allegorical painting, in allusion to King William's gift of a regiment to Lord Cobham, at his entrance into the army. The other principal ornaments round the walls are eight antique marble busts. On each side the Hall are old apartments of dressing and bed rooms, full of pictures, but not now shewn. These apartments lead to the circular Corridores, each of 27 Ionic columns, &c. We next visited the chapel, which is small and inadequate to so noble a place. The cedar wainstcoat, and a copy of the Holy Lamb, by Rubens, are the only things worth mentioning. Adjacent to this we saw the intended library, a room of considerable size, 45 by 25 and 20, at present little more than a shell, but when finished, it no doubt will be worthy notice; from hence we were conducted to the Marchioness's dressing room, 32 by 26 and 19, neatly furnished with white damask, besides a considerable collection of paintings by various masters, some of which are undoubted originals, particularly the portraits of the Protector-Duke of Somerset, and Lord Admiral Thomas Seymour, his brother, said to be the only one extant. We find several of her Ladyship's own ad-

* I had carefully transcribed most of the inscriptions that adorn these numerous buildings, with an intention to insert them, particularly those over the busts on the Temple of British Worthies, as being well written and worth preserving; but I concluded since that they are sufficiently known from the Guides which have been published, and I also found more original matter afterwards crowd upon my pen, than one volume could easily contain.

mirable performances; that of Mrs. Siddons, in the character of the Tragic muse supported by pity and horror, is very striking; the original, by Sir Joshua Reynolds, I saw in the royal exhibition, and think this a most excellent copy. On the frame is the following inscription from Shakespear's Henry V.

Oh! for a muse of fire that would ascend
The brightest heaven of invention.

The Grenville room, 32 by 26 and 19, green damask, hung with a numerous collection of portraits of the Temple and Grenville families. Peter Temple, Anno 1560, John Temple, his son, founder of Stowe, Sir Thomas Temple, Bart. Hester Sandys of Latimer, in Bucks, his wife, who from four sons, and nine daughters, lived to see 700 descendants*. After a long series, several of which are by Cornelius Jansen, we come to Sir Richard, father of lord Cobham; lord Viscount Cobham, by Vanloo; Mary, sister to lord Cobham, wife to Dr. West, and afterwards of Sir James Langham; the portraits of Richard Grenville and his wife Hester, the latter, by Sir Godfrey Kneller; Richard, Earl Temple; right honourable George Grenville, second son, who was father to the Marquis of Buckingham; the honourable Thomas Grenville, captain of the Defence, 64 guns, who was killed in defence of his country, May 3d, 1747.

The billiard room, 29 and 26, and 19, hung with fine tapestry from drawings of Teniers. Here are a few portraits; the principal one of the Marquis de Vieuville, ambassador to Charles I. by Vandyke. A table of Giallo Antique. Chimney piece of Scaiola, made at Rome. Adjacent to this is an excellent dining room, 42 by 25, and 19. The paintings, not numerous, are Christ rising from the tomb, by Tintoretto; a very fine piece of Sampson in the prison at Gaza, but this not certain, some call it an Italian story, by Rembrandt; four conversation pieces, by Francesco Cippo; a view of the Tiber above Rome, unknown; a curious marble chest found on the road to Tivoli, and brought from Rome by the Marquis. Next, a drawing room, 31 by 25 and 19, beautiful tapestry of Dutch designs, from Teniers. Over the chimney, a curious head of St. Peter in mosaic, finished so deceitfully, that the best judges can scarce tell how it is wrought; some believe it paint, others, tapestry, &c. The music room, very magnificent, 50 by 32 and 22. At each end are Scaiola pillars; a profusion of gilt, and other ornaments executed by Signor Valdrè, with infinite taste and genius. The general idea of his pencil on the walls, is taken from the Loggia of Raphael at Rome. The ceiling represents, in beautiful colours, the dance of the Hours, the Seasons, and Aurora round the Sun, which forms the centre; Night retiring in her gloomy mantle under a cloud. The chimney piece is Roman; the tables of fine Verde Antique. The effect of the whole is uncommonly striking and superb. We now passed through the saloon to the state apartments. The drawing room of the same dimensions as the last described. Furniture orange damask. Among the principal paintings are; Hagar and Ishmael, by Pietro de Cortona; the Prodigal Son, by Guercino; Moses burying the Egyptian, by Poussin; two landscapes, by the same; the burial of Christ, by Bassan; a fine landscape, by Teniers; a knight of the Bath, by Vandyke; Holy Family, by Rubens; and an admirable picture of Venus, by Titian; which was brought from the collection of Gavin Hamilton, at Rome. The Italian chimney-piece, glasses, and other furniture and ornaments, are rich and beautiful. The state gallery, 70 by 25 and 22, displays an equal share of magnificence and splendor; chimney pieces of

* Fuller's Worthies.

Sienna marble; two fine marble tables of Nero Antique, the ceiling much gilt and painted; and the walls hung with curious tapestry, representing the Triumphs of Ceres, Bacchus, Venus, Mars, and Diana. Here are also four emblematical paintings in Clare-obscure. The chairs, window-curtains, &c. are of blue silk damask. The state dressing room contains a good portrait of the late field Marshal, Viscount Cobham, by Sir Godfrey Kneller; two fine pictures of a Burgo-master and his wife, Van-horst; and a head unknown, by C. Jansen. The state bed room, is 50 by 35 and 18, hung with crimson damask, and richly gilt and carved. The closets are highly ornamented and contain, amongst other pictures, a St. Francis, by Corregio; offering of the Magi, by Paul Veronese; a candle light piece, by Schalken; and a valuable picture of La Belle Ferroniere, mistress to Francis I. of France, by Leonardi da Vinci.

From hence we proceeded through Middleton Stoney in our way to Woodstock. The country hereabouts is very uninteresting, and the roads intolerably bad. About four miles from Middleton, we saw on our left a handsome built house, encircled in fine groves, the seat of Mr. Farmer, and called Terfmore. From this small place where we dined, the evening grew dark and the objects around became obscured, however we had time to observe about four miles beyond Middleton, the seat and park of Lord Jersey, and three miles farther, on our left Kirtlington-house, situated in an extensive park, the seat of Sir Henry Watkin Dashwood, Bart. From hence we found the road very intricate, and after many difficulties, gladly arrived at the Bear Inn, Woodstock. This small town has a neat church, newly finished with an elegant stone tower; the houses are mostly of the same materials, and inns excellent. The inhabitants are much employed in the glove and steel business, the latter of which is here brought to the highest perfection, by a brilliancy of polish peculiar to this place, which owes its original to an ingenious watch-maker, who first established it here about seventy years ago. Woodstock park seems to have been a royal seat, ever since the days of King Alfred, who is said to have translated Boethius de Consolatione Philosophiæ here. King Etheldred held an assembly of the states, and enacted several laws here. Henry I. was fond of this palace, to which he made additions, and enclosed the park, said to have been the first in England with a stone wall. But Doomday book proves parks to have existed at the time of its compilation. It is probable therefore this was the first time, such a mode of enclosure was used. Henry II. had his chief residence here, and built his mistress, the fair Rosamond, an house in the park, and to secure her from the jealousy of his Queen, encompassed it with a labyrinth so intricate, that none might find her, * except such as had received the clue from her. Yet even in Camden's time there were no remains of the labyrinth. At this palace Edmund, second son of Edward I. (afterwards Earl of Kent). and Thomas 3d son of Edward III. (created duke of Gloucester) were both born, and both were thence surnamed of Woodstock. Here the Princess Elizabeth, afterwards Queen, was some time kept a prisoner, and not in the best apartments. She was brought from the tower hither under the conduct of Sir Henry Bedingfield. As she passed, the people rejoiced and the bells rung; but this so displeased her keeper, that he put the ringers in the stocks. This raised such suspicions in the Princess, that she said to her

* Yet this retreat is said not to have availed her. The Queen discovered it and used her so harshly, she did not long survive it. She had a fine tomb at Godstow, a village near Oxford, before the dissolution of that Nunnery; with this inscription.

Hæc jacet in tumbâ rosa mundi, non rosa munda,
Non redolet, sed olet, quæ redolere solet.—

friends,

friends, "As a sheep to the slaughter, so am I led." She was kept under a guard of soldiers night and day; and a fire happening between the floor of her chamber, and the ceiling of the room below, (suspected purposely) she had infallibly perished, had not somebody pulled up the boards and quenched the flames. Here one day looking pensively through her prison-window, she observed a maid in the park milking a cow, and merrily singing over her pail, whereupon she exclaimed, "that liberty and fearlessness were more valuable than all the greatness in the world, and wished that she were rather that milk-maid than a Princess." From henceforth this palace continued in the crown, and Fuller in his *Worthies* (published since the restoration) calls it a fair building. However it was then in its wane, and by a print of it in Queen Elizabeth's progresses from a drawing in the beginning of this century, it appears there were at that time but inconsiderable remains. Afterwards Queen Anne, with the concurrence of Parliament, granted all the interest of the crown in the honor and manor of Woodstock, and hundred of Wotton to John, Duke of Marlborough and his heirs, as a reward of his eminent and unparalleled services in gaining, by his courage and conduct, divers victories over the French and Bavarian army at Shellenberge, and other places; but more especially at Blenheim, by which the Frontiers of Holland were secured, and England and the Empire rescued from immediate ruin.

The new palace of Blenheim, which is not only the boast and ornament of this place, but the whole kingdom at large, is a vast and magnificent pile, raised at the public expenditure of 700,000*l*. You enter the park through a spacious Corinthian arch, at about 100 yards from which is the most beautiful view of the whole; the heaviness of the buildings is here greatly diminished by a side view, and the immense expanse of water, Rialto Bridge, its deeply swelling banks, park, &c. are seen in all possible variety of order, as the genius of the immortal Brown could best dictate. Vanbrugh was the architect, whose buildings are in general ponderously heavy, and by some esteemed monuments of the vilest taste. However this may be critically just, we cannot but observe this princely fabric with sublime veneration. The front is about 348 feet in extent, and highly ornamented. The common entrance at the east gate, over which is a reservoir of 500 hogsheds of water to supply the house, led us into the first quadrangle of offices, from whence we proceeded into the area, and through the superb portico to the hall; this most magnificent room is 67 feet high, 60 long, and of a proportionable breadth. The ceiling is painted by Sir James Thornhill, and represents victory crowning the great Duke, and pointing to the battle of Blenheim. Saloon is 60 high, by about 50 and 40; here is a great display of magnificence, the lower part lined with marble, the walls depicted by La Guerre, representing different nations in their various habits. The ceiling he has adorned with another emblematic compliment to the noble Duke. Right of the saloon, is the state drawing room, excellent size, and hung with tapestry, representing some of the Duke's battles. Principal paintings; the adoration of the Shepherds, and the offering of the Magi, by Lucca Giordano; a Madona and child, and holy family, by Nic. Poussin: also a masterly picture, by Rubens, of Meleager and Atlanta; a portrait of the Duchess, by Romney. Another drawing room, with more fine tapestry of the Duke's march to, and siege of, Bocatoh. Three old paintings by Genoese, &c. and a portrait of the present Duke, by Romney. State bed-chamber; over the doors, two pieces of still-life, by Malteze; a portrait of Edward 6th, by Holbein; but the most capital, is Seneca bleeding to death, by Lucca Giordano; this is much less, and the figures not so numerous, or fine as that at Burleigh. After passing this inferior suite of apartments, we were next suddenly surprized with the most magnificent library, 183 feet by 32 and 40; this was originally a gallery for paintings, and still contains many good portraits,

traits, mostly of the family; the marble workmanship is highly finished, and the stuccoed ceiling of the richest designs. At one end is a superb statue of Queen Anne, by Ryſbrack. The late Duke furnished it with lord Sunderland, his father's noble collection of books, which consists of 24,000 volumes, allowed to be the best private collection in England. From these windows you have a charming prospect of the winding swells to the water, and of the groves on the opposite hill. Hence we were conducted to the chapel in one of the wings, which is very handsome, spacious, and lofty. The monument to the memory of the old Duke and Duchess, is a most superb piece of sculpture, by Ryſbrack; they are represented with their two sons who died young, as supported by Fame and History. The altar piece is our Saviour taken from the cross, by Jordaens of Antwerp. Returning to the saloon, we next entered the dining room, of moderate dimensions; the principal paintings are a capital landscape, by Claud Lorrain; Lot and his two daughters, Venus and Adonis, both presents from the Emperor, by Rubens; a capital piece of cattle and figures, by Castiglione; portrait of Queen Anne, whilst Princess of Denmark, by Sir Godfrey Kneller; a group of the Duke and Duchess, and children, by Sir Joshua Reynolds. Winter drawing room; Goblins tapestry representing the Cardinal Virtues. An excellent portrait of Mary, Duchess of Richmond, by Vandyke; lord Strafford and his secretary, by the same; this is similar to one I have seen at Wentworth house in Yorkshire, but infinitely inferior, it cannot surely be disputed which is the original. Mr. Walpole esteems that the *chef d'œuvre* of Vandyke; and says, "I can forgive him any insipid portraits of perhaps insipid people, when he showed himself capable of conceiving and transmitting the idea of the greatest man of the age." Two of King Charles's beauties, Mrs. Killigrew and Morton, by ditto. Blue dressing room: this contains a considerable collection of good paintings. The principal in the upper row, Isaac blessing Jacob, and the woman taken in adultery, by Rembrandt; Catherine de Medicis, by Rubens; Time clipping Cupid's wings, by Vandyke; our Saviour and St. John, by Carlo Dolce; an Astronomer and his family, by Dobson; portrait of William, Marquis of Blandford, by Sir Godfrey Kneller. Under row: our Saviour and the Virgin in the clouds, and an holy family, by Hannibal and Ludovico Carracci; a Dutch family, by Ostade; two landscapes, by Gaspar * Pouſſin; two more by Vander Neer and Woovermans; Dorothy Countess of Sunderland, by Vandyke. Summer drawing room, or grand cabinet, richly decorated with pictures. Here are repositied the greatest efforts of the pencil of Rubens. The Roman charity; the offering of the Magi; the flight into Egypt; Andromeda chained to the rock; Lot's departure out of Sodom; the portrait of Paracelsus, and his own head &c. &c.; a fine Magdalen, by Carlo Dolce; a holy family, by Ludovico Carracci; our Saviour blessing the children, esteemed capital, by Vandyke; Pope Gregory, and a female Martyr holding a palm branch, by Titian; Raphael's mistress, Dorothea, by himself.

Thus gratified with inspecting this internal magnificence, we departed without being able to see much of the external beauties of the park and pleasure grounds; which in fine weather afford infinite pleasure, but a torrent of showers deprived us of this further enjoyment. The former is 11 miles round, and contains 2,500 acres, with 2000 head of deer; the water of 250 acres, and its fine swelling banks were disposed by the great

* "The Duchess of Marlborough gave any price for his pictures; they are the first ornaments of Blenheim, but have suffered by neglect, there are sixteen pieces by this master, the best are his own portrait, with his wife and child, the offering of the Magi, and the Roman charity."†

Walpole's Anecdotes of Painters, vol. 2d. p. 144.†

Mr. Browne. The span of the arch of the Rialto bridge is 101 feet, but this extensive appearance is much obscured by the fullness of the water. On the vast obelisk, which is 130 feet high, the grant of the crown, and services of the Duke, are fully displayed by a long inscription written by Dr. Hare, who had been his Grace's chaplain, and was afterwards Bishop of Chichester.

Woodstock is among the places which contend for the honor of the birth of Chaucer. Of his residence here, in a square stone house, near the park gate, there is no doubt. This great genius, the father of English poetry, was born (most probably of honorable parents, though this is not certain) in 1328, 2. of Edward III. He was educated both at Cambridge and Oxford, and then studied the law in the middle temple, thence he went to court, and became the King's Page, and was taken under the patronage of John of Gaunt, Duke of Lancaster, whose interest he never after forsook. Indeed a closer tie afterwards took place; he married about 1360 Philippa, sister of Catherine Swinford, first the mistress and afterwards the wife of his patron; and the ancestress from whom Henry VII. derived his title to the crown. During the greater part of his life he enjoyed many rich and honorable employments, and his income is said to have been at one time 1000*l. per annum.* a large estate in those days. He resided much, particularly while the court was here, at this spot. When disengaged from public business his time was entirely spent in studying and walking. The park here was the scene of his most favorite wanderings, and many of the rural descriptions in his poems are taken from hence.* In the poem called the Cuckowe † and Nightingale, the description of the morning walk is exactly what may be traced from his house, through part of the park, and down by the brook into the vale under Blenheim house, as certainly as we may assert that Maples instead of Phyllereas were the ornaments round the bower, which place he likewise describes in his dream, as a white castle standing upon an hill, the scene in that poem being laid in Woodstock park. Thus has the country hereabouts become consecrated in his poems, and to all who feel the genuine force of poetry, a classic ground. About two years before him, died his kind patron the Duke of Lancaster, and this so deeply affected him, that he could no longer bear this place, the scene of his former happiness, but retired to Dunnington castle § by Newbury, in Berkshire; in the solitude of which sweet retreat he indulged his contemplations, till October 25, 1400; when, at the age of 72, he departed quietly to his grave. Sir Thomas Chaucer, Knt. his son and heir, was Speaker of the House of Commons in the reign of Henry IV. and in many other honourable offices, and left a daughter, and heir Alice, who carried the castle of Dunnington, Ewelme Palace (by Benson) in this county, and other large estates to William De la Pole, Earl, and afterwards Duke of Suffolk, whose son, by mixing with the blood royal, was the real author of the destruction of the family in the person of the grandson, beheaded by Henry VIII. 1513. The estates were forfeited to the Crown. Ewelme became a palace to our Kings. Most of the rest were granted to Charles Brandon, created Duke of Suffolk.

* See Chaucer's Life in the Biographia, and other books.

† Ver. 51. 85,

§ Dunnington Castle lies half a mile to the right of Spinhamland. In the park was an old oak, called Chaucer's oak, under which he is said to have composed many of his poems. Here afterwards the gallant Charles Brandon, Duke of Suffolk, (the favorite of Henry VIII. who married that haughty monarch's youngest sister,) much resided. In the rebellion it was a garrison for Charles I. under the valiant Sir John Boys. The King lay here one night. At present there is remaining only a battered gateway with two towers, and some small part of the scattered walls, choked with brambles, and overrun with ivy.

In the evening we proceeded to Oxford, that sacred seat of the Muses; the antiquity and particulars of which I shall not here pretend to describe; the two Universities are places so well known, and so full of matter for contemplation and description, that nothing less than a separate work can give an account adequate to their respective merits. I shall therefore pass this place over in silent veneration, and only insert a few common observations on recent improvements in that noble city, and its neighbouring beauties. Besides the wonderful improvements that have been made, within a few years, by widening the streets, paving, &c. the new county goal does great credit to the spirit of the place, and when finished will be one of the strongest and best in the kingdom. Its situation is adjacent to the old castle, and encompassed by a massy stone wall, which we enter at a large tower and gate-way, over which is to be the platform for executions. In the centre of this spacious area, stands the governor's house, whence he can overlook the whole of the buildings under his care. The principal one for felons is divided into 60 cells, eight feet by seven, as strong as iron and stone can make them. The two lesser bridewells contain 20 each, and are almost finished. The old castle is to remain as it was, so that the whole group which is of that style of architecture, will have a noble appearance. There is also a city prison now building upon the same plan.

As Nuneham, the seat of the earl of Harcourt, is a place so generally famed, we could not omit visiting it. This estate formerly belonged to the Courtneys of Devonshire, and is called to this day Nuneham Courtney. After passing through several hands, it was sold in Oliver Cromwell's time, to John Robinson, of London, merchant, (ancestor to Sir George Robinson, bart.) from whose family it came by an heiress to David Earl of Wemys; of whom it was purchased in 1710, by Simon, first lord Harcourt, lord high chancellor of England. He was son and heir of Sir Philip Harcourt, knt. (member for Oxfordshire, 1681) seated at Stanton Harcourt in this county, (a mansion now sold, but still the burial place of the family) where his ancestors had resided ever since they married the heiress of Richard de Camville, in the reign of Richard I. who brought them this seat. They have been very famous here; one of them a knight of the garter; have married nobly; and have never been beneath the degree of knighthood.* The present house at Nuneham was built by the late earl. It is situated about six miles from Oxford, and half a one from the Henley road, on the side of a rich hill, and encompassed with an extensive park well wooded, the softly flowing Isis meandering at a proper distance in the meadows below. A sweeter situation could scarce be found for such a piece of architecture, nor a spot so much endowed by nature, or as well laid out by Brown; "here are scenes worthy of the bold pencil of Rubens, or to be subjects for the tranquil sunshines of Claud Lorrain."† The common approach gives an idea of nothing more than a small plain gentleman's seat, and the inspection of the first apartments confirms this impression, but we were afterwards pleasingly deceived. The furniture is mostly elegant, and the rooms adorned with many capital paintings. Passing through the hall, which is strongly arched as a security against fire, in which are some antique statues, we ascended the circular geometrical stair-case, and entered a small room called the saloon, in which are several good paintings, Susanna and the elders, by Hannibal Carracci; the Nativity, by Pietro da Pietri; several portraits, by Vandyke; two Beggar Boys, by Murillio. Anti-chamber, small, but ornamented with tolerable pictures. From hence, by a narrow circular

* The mother of lord chancellor Harcourt was Anne, daughter of Sir William Waller (the parliament general) of Osterley park, before described.

† Walpole's Anecdotes of Painters, vol. 2d. p. 145.

passage to the library, which is adorned in a pleasing style with heads of the poets, &c. Rowe and Pope, by Kneller; Philips, by Ryley; Prior, by old Dahl; Shakespear, Rousseau, Beaumont, Addison, Mason, Sir Walter Raleigh, Horace Walpole, Sir Isaac Newton, Mrs. Pritchard, Mrs. Siddons, &c. Dining-room, very handsome; its dimensions 33 by 24 and 18. Here are some excellent paintings; the principal, Ulysses and Nausica, by Salvator Rosa; a large landscape with figures and cattle, very beautiful, by Cuyp; four ruins of Rome, by Parolo Panini; dead game and dogs, by Snyders; two fruit pieces, by Michael Angelo Campidoglio; landscapes by G. Poussin and Ruyfdaal, Octagon drawing-room, 30 by 24 and 18, and superbly furnished and gilt, &c. with no inconsiderable share of pictures; two Madonas, by Guido and Barrocci, both esteemed beautiful; Christ crowned with thorns, by Veronese; St. John preaching in the wilderness, by Albano; Moses sweetning the waters of Meribah, highly coloured, by Nicolo Poussin; landscape by Gaspar Poussin, &c. Great drawing-room, 49 by 24 and 18, St. Margaret, whole length, and highly preserved, by Titian; from the collection of Charles I. Four noble landscapes, the subject hunting the boar, Italian Banditti, Diana and nymphs, and other figures, (some of them by Teniers,) by Van Artois; two lesser beautiful ones, by Gaspar Poussin, and figures by Nicolo; a charming Cuyp; a moon-light on the water, very perfect, by Vander Neer; a landscape by Claud Lorrain; a beautiful landscape, a cart overturning in a rocky country, by moonlight, by Rubens; this is well known by Bolswaert's prints;* An entertainment on the Texel with English and Dutch yachts, an admired Vandervelde, lesser landscapes, by Wootton, &c. Another circular passage led us to the state bed-room, hung with velvet, and many valuable old family portraits; also the King and Queen, by Gainborough. Two dressing rooms full of various paintings. Amongst the rest, a portrait of Giles Bruges, third lord Chandos (who died 1594, the dress remarkable, apparently Spanish, the cloke of black velvet, with silver ornaments.

We now walked to view the external beauties of the place, which must excite peculiar admiration in the mind of every beholder; the park is about six miles round, and the pleasure grounds, including the garden, contain near 60 acres. Ascending the hill towards the church, you have an exquisite view to Abingdon, and other parts of Berkshire. The grand sweep of woods, and the river Isis are charming features in this scene. Beyond the chapel, the prospect breaks still more enchantingly through a vista to the north, up the Isis to the stately towers of Oxford "bosomed high in tufted trees." Such was our view from the windows of the house, but here the fore-ground gives great grandeur and boldness. In front of this avenue stands the peculiarly formed church of fine stone, in imitation of a Roman temple; this was erected by a late lord, founder of the house, 1764. In front are six large pillars supporting a plain pediment, and from the top rises a lofty dome. The inside is extremely neat; over the parish door are names of those who have gained the annual prize of merit, from an institution made by his lordship seven years ago. This is determined by the votes of the parishioners in favour of the most sober and honest candidate. A very laudable institution, and worthy of universal imitation. Over the altar is a painting of the good Samaritan, by Mason, the poet. In the garden is an excellent conservatory, open in summer,

* "The noblest and largest landscape of Rubens, is in the royal collection. It exhibits an almost bird's eye view of an extensive country, with such masterly clearness and intelligence, as to contain in itself alone a school for painters of landscape."†

† Walpoles's Anecdotes, vol. 2d. p. 145 and 6.

and covered in the winter season. On the margin of the walks are placed various buildings and busts, inscribed with verses from many of our favourite poets, but too numerous to be inserted in this description. I shall only observe, in the words of Milton,

—————" Here universal Pan,
" Knit with the Graces, and the hours in dance,
" Leads on th' eternal spring."

Infinitely delighted with this excursion, we returned by the village of Nuneham, which consists of about twenty neat houses, at equal distances on the road; these are divided into two separate dwellings, so that forty families may here, by this liberal assistance of his lordship, enjoy the comforts of industry under a wholesome roof, who otherwise might have been doomed to linger out their days in the filthy hut of poverty. As we approached the University, its towers and richly shaded groves again won our admiration and astonishment. From this road the effect of the whole is indisputably the most striking, and may challenge the universe to shew its equal.

" See! Oxford lifts her head sublime,
" Majestic in the mofs of time;
" Nor wants there Græcia's better part,
" 'Mid the proud piles of ancient art;
" Nor decent Doric to dispense
" New charms 'mid old magnificence;
" And here and there soft Corinth weaves
" Her dædal coronet of leaves;
" While as with rival pride, her towers invade the sky."*

August 31. After a night of much rain; we crossed the river into Berkshire, to visit the adjacent market town of Abingdon. The intermediate hills are very beautiful and afford several pleasing views. Those noble sons of the forest, the widely spreading oaks, form an agreeable shade of considerable length; at the further extremity, as we began to descend into the flat again, we saw, at a small distance on our left, Radley, a considerable modern edifice, belonging to Sir James Stonehouse. Leland mentions, there was a park there belonging to Abingdon Abbey, which was destroyed because the scholars of Oxford much resorted there to hunt. The same liberty of sporting is still taken by the University, to the great annoyance of the owner of this place. Beyond, across the vale, lord Harcourt's sweet place called to mind those charming scenes of the preceding day. We now approached the principal object of our excursion, and received a most terrible impression at the entrance from this road; a narrow lane, unworthy the name of a street, made too almost impassable by the confines of dirt and water. The market-place, however, improved our idea of the town, though it has little more to boast than a spacious market-house, over which is a good hall for public business. This is certainly a building that may claim pre-eminence over those of most towns of like size and consequence, nay, so superior is it to the general structure of the place, that it seems as though brought there by mistake. If we search into the annals of antiquity, we shall find this town of much greater consequence than at present, deriving its name and chief glory from its abbey, founded by one Hein or Eanus, a noble Saxon, nephew to Cissa, king of the West Saxons, about 675. According to Leland, the abbey was first begun at Bagley wood, those noble shades we described

* Warton's Ode.

about two miles from hence; but the foundations and the works (says he) there prospered not; whereupon it was translated to Seukesham and there finished chiefly at the costs of King Cissa, who was himself afterwards buried there. And from this abbey being built it changed its name to Abingdon. In old times (continues Leland) many of the villages about Abingdon had but chapels of ease, and this abbey was their mother church, where they buried. Amongst the rest the famous Geoffery of Monmouth had his monument here. This abbey, which was one of the finest and richest in England, had not flourished long, ere it was demolished by the violent fury of the Danes. Yet it soon after recovered itself through the liberality of King Edgar, and afterwards by the industry of the Norman abbots it grew to such magnificence, as to stand in competition with any in Britain. "It was in ancient times called Sheoversham, a famous city, goodly to behold, full of riches, encompassed with very fruitful fields, green meadows, spacious pastures, and flocks of cattle abounding with milk. Here the king kept his court; hither the people resorted, while consultations were depending about the greatest and most weighty affairs of the kingdom." Two synods are supposed to have been held here, one in 742, and the other in 822. Leland says the rents of this abbey were almost 2,000*l.* a year. Though this town had its dependance for a long time on the abbey, yet since 1416, when King Henry V. built bridges over the Ouse (as appears by a distich in a window of St. Helen's church there) and turned the high road hither, for a shorter cut; it became much frequented, having a mayor and corporation, &c. and much enriched itself by making great quantities of malt; as it still does, sending the chief in barges to London by the river. It gives title of earl to the right honourable Willoughby Bertie, which was first conferred upon his ancestor James lord Norris of Rycote, 1682, 34th of Charles II.

September 1st, as before, cloudy and unsettled, but made soft and pleasant by intervening sunshine. Being delayed beyond our expectation, at a time too when the University could afford little or no society, and the whole town looked dull in the midst of a long recess from business and gaiety; thus circumstanced we were glad to find any object worthy attention, that might afford us an hour's useful entertainment. To this intent we directed our course along the Gloucester road to Einsam; the meadows we passed through are exceedingly pleasant and extensive, where we crossed six or seven excellent stone bridges, thrown over the rivulets, which refresh with their cool streams the growing herbage; and from the summit of the vast hill beyond we had a fine prospect over the four adjoining counties. The back front of Blenheim, and the stately obelisk in the park, are great additions to this scenery; but they appear less to their own advantage from this point of view. A little on our right we saw Witham, an old monastick-looking edifice, belonging to lord Abingdon; and as we approach the village of Einsam, this earl has erected a fair stone bridge of six arches, in the place of a ferry, also a large square house, intended for an inn, but never yet inhabited: the former pays a very profitable toll, but the latter is likely to continue an incumbrance to its owner. Einsam (according to Camden) was formerly a royal vill, which Cuthwulph, the Saxon, first took from the conquered Britains. Ethelmar, a nobleman, adorned it with a monastery, which King Ethelred confirmed in 1005, and "signed the privilege of liberty, with the sign of the Holy Cross." After the dissolution this religious house was turned into a private seat, which belonged to the earls of Derby. From Henry, third earl, it came to his third son, Sir Edward, who was buried here 1609, S. P. and was succeeded in his estate by his nephew, Sir Edward Stanley, k. b. one of whose co-heirs was the famous Venetia, the wife of Sir Kenelm Digby, of whose beauty and other accomplishments, so much has been said.

September

September 3d. Favoured with every charm that the season would allow, we left awhile these reverend scenes, grown irksome and unedifying by repetition, to take another short survey of the country, and to enjoy the refreshing influence of southern breezes. By Heddington hill, which takes its name from a small village beyond, we directed our course; to this agreeable summit is formed a commodious gravel walk for the benefit of Oxford; from hence we crossed the fields to that village, but the roads were almost impassable for a carriage, and the place afforded nothing to satisfy our trouble, except the sight of a few well-built new houses, belonging to some of the inhabitants of Oxford; the air here is recommended for its salubrity, which makes it frequently the residence of invalids, &c. Inclining again towards the London road, we ascended the vast brow of Shotover, which commands an almost boundless view of the adjacent counties; the eye is here in the centre of an immense circle, but the objects are not numerous enough to engage any long attention, though there is a considerable variety of country to look over. Queen Elizabeth, in her progresses, 1566, visited Oxford, and was magnificently entertained by the University for seven days. "The day after she took her leave, and was conducted by the heads as far as Shotover-hill, when the Earl of Leicester gave her notice, that they had accompanied her to the limits of their jurisdiction. From hence casting her eyes back upon Oxford, with all possible marks of tenderness and affection, she bade them farewell. The Queen's countenance, and the Earl of Leicester's care, had such an effect upon the diligence of this learned body, that, within a few years after, it produced more shining instances of real worth, than had ever been sent abroad at the same time in any age whatsoever."* The harvest around seemed pretty forward, and the crops plentiful and well-looking, but we observed more unfinished and standing here, than in the parts of Bucks we lately passed; the settled serenity of the sky was now most propitious, and no doubt a few such days will set the farmer's heart at ease, and crown the year with plenty.

September 4th, more charming than the preceding, we left Oxford and pursued the direct road to Worcester, through Woodstock, &c. taking Dicheley, the seat of Lord Litchfield's, now Lord Dillon's, in our way. Its situation is a little on the left of Kidlington turnpike, about 12 miles from Oxford, but the nearest and best way is by Blenheim park. Dicheley is an hamlet, in the parish of Spillesbury, of which the principal manor belonged to William Beauchamp, Lord Abergavenny, 12th Henry IV. afterwards it was owned by George Duke of Clarence, during whose son's minority, the stewardship was granted to William, lord Norris. In the reign of queen Elizabeth, an estate in this parish (probably the manor) belonged to Thomas Bridges, Esq.† of Keynsham, in Somersetshire, and of Bruern Abbey, in this county. Whether Dicheley is a manor, and if so who were the ancient owners, I am not informed. But about the reign of James I. the Lees, whose principal seat was at Quarendon in Bucks, before-mentioned, were in possession of a mansion here, and by degrees the old residence was deserted, and this became their chief habitation. Sir Henry Lee was created a Baronet, 1611; his son, sir Henry, lived at Dicheley, and dying about 1641, his widow Ann, (daughter of Sir John St. John of Lydiard Tregoze, baronet) married Henry Wilmot, Viscount Athlone, of Ireland, the famous loyalist, created by Charles I. Earl of Rochester, who resided here, (in right of his wife, as her jointure-house, no doubt)

* All that passed during her visit at Oxford, &c. may be fully seen in the *Queen's Progresses*, vol. 1. for 1566. to which is annexed a view of Shotover. Here was once a considerable forest, of which Milton's grandfather was the ranger.

† Younger brother to John Lord Chandos, who died 1557.

and in 1659 was buried in the vault belonging to the Lees in Spillesbury church. At this feat was born his son the famous John Wilmot, Earl of Rochester, on April 10th, 1647. He was both the ornament and disgrace of the court of Charles II. "He lived worthless and useless, and blazed out his youth and his health in lavish voluptuousness; till at the age of one and thirty, he had exhausted the fund of life, and reduced himself to a state of weakness and decay*." At length he was so worn out, that he expired without a struggle, July 26th, 1680, *Æt.* 34. I think the scite of a lodge somewhere in Woodstock park, where he is said to have breathed his last, has been formerly pointed out to me. Sir Henry Lee, Bart. son of the countess of Rochester, by her former husband, was father of Anne, the first wife of Thomas, Marquis of Wharton†. Sir Francis Lee, his younger brother, was father of the first earl of Litchfield. The present mansion was rebuilt by the elder brother of the last earl, and is esteemed the best of Gibbs's architecture. The old mansion I believe stood in a different situation, lower in the park. The approach to the principal entrance, the hall, is nothing grand or magnificent; but the inside of this room is very noble. Its dimensions, as near as I could guess, without an accurate measure, are a cube of 36 feet, and coved at top. The ceiling and walls are painted by Kent, and decorated with various sculptures. Also a portrait of the founder of the house. To the right we enter a small breakfast parlour, with a few paintings. The two most worth notice are Rubens and family, on horseback amongst wild beasts, the figures by Rubens, and beasts by Snyders; a large shooting piece, the principal figure, the late lord and chancellor of Oxford, by Wootton. Dining room, about 36 by 21, richly ornamented with portraits; Charles I. and son, very admirable, by Vandyke; Henry VIII. by Hans Holbein‡; Prince Arthur, by C. Jansen; Sir Henry Lee in Elizabeth's time, the first of the family; and four brothers, by Cornelius Jansen; lord and lady Litchfield in coronation robes, by Richardson, and Vanderbart; duke of Monmouth and his mother, by sir Peter Lely; sir Charles Rich, brother to earl Warwick, killed 1627, on the Isle of Rhée, by Jansen. Late Lord's bed-room, crimson damask furniture, and very old tapestry, &c. Small dressing room adjacent, Madona and child, by Mineeard, a Frenchman; a fine piece not hung up, of the nativity, lately sent here by lord Dillon, the light shining from the glory and reflected from the surrounding figures, seemed particularly strong and beautiful. Small tapestry drawing room, 27, by 22, portraits of the countess Lindsay, and Rochester, sisters, sir P. Lely; Duchesses of Cleveland by sir P. Lely; sir F. Henry Lee, first earl of Litchfield, by Vandyke. Saloon, 36 by 29, displays no ornaments worth notice, except a bust of Dr. Sharp, and an antique marble statue of Hygeia. The person employed in the stucco work, painting, &c. was Roberts of Oxford. Green tapestry room, the chancellor of Oxford, nephew to the late lord Litchfield: sir Walter Raleigh, by Moore; archbishop Warham, by Holbein; duchesses of Portsmouth, by Lely; Jacob's dream, by Rembrandt; a sleeping Venus and Painter, by Titian: a small virgin and child, by Raphael; four small landscapes with cattle and figures, by Polinbary; a landscape over the chimney, by Wootton. Great gilt drawing room, about 37 by 26: furniture, crimson damask: gilding and other ornaments, by Roberts; Charles II; du-

* Johnson's Lives of the Poets.

† Lord Rochester's mother seems to have been of a family productive of eccentric characters. I was going to instance it in the famous Philip Duke of Wharton, as the issue of this marriage of her grandchild, but he was the son of a second match. However the Countess's brother, Sir Walter St. John, Bart. was grand-father of the most extraordinary Henry St. John, Viscount Bolingbroke.

‡ However this is much doubted.

chefs of Cleveland: countess of Lindfay, by sir P. Lely; lord and lady Litchfield; lady Charlotte Fitzroy, mother to the late lord Litchfield, and duke of Grafton, her brother by Kneller; a landscape, by Wootton. Adjacent closet containing portraits, &c. James I. singularly dressed, sir Thomas Pope, by Vandyke, &c.: Just Steward, and group receiving their hire, by Vandermant. Velvet bed room; a very curious table of ebony, inlaid with brass, and made in Louis XIVth's time; a white marble chimney piece, the carving very light and admirable. Small dressing room: a beautiful painting of the duchess of Orleans, Charles II's daughter, by Lely; St. Catharine going to be tortured on the rack, by Vanmander; a curious travelling chest of Charles II. brought here by means of the late lord Litchfield's mother, who was daughter to that prince. Hence we were conducted through a circular raised passage to the chapel, neat and plain. Over the altar, a painting of Christ taken from the cross, by Poussin. Great tapestry drawing room, about 30 by 25, represents Vulcan opposing Æneas on one wall, and Neptune, &c. on the other. Over the chimney piece a group of the duke and duchess of York and children, by Lely. From this southern aspect, the views are extensive and pleasing. In the stair-case stands a model in wood, of Ratcliff's library at Oxford. We now took leave of this noble repository of valuable portraits, whose apartments are otherwise decorated with a simple elegance rather than ostentatious splendor, nor could we help sympathizing with the melancholy that seemed to hover round this deserted place, that a new smile of fortune had thus deprived it of its present owner*. We dined at Enstone, a small adjacent village, on the turnpike road; and four miles further, slept at Chapel-house, a most excellent inn, built about 30 years ago, with stables and other accommodations of the first style. The surrounding fields are flat and open, but Mr. Kirby, the landlord's shrubberies and other plantations, are a pleasing ornament and protection. Near this stands Heathrop, the seat of lord Shrewsbury, distinctly seen from the Oxford road. This has always been esteemed worthy the inspection of the traveller, both for its external and internal grandeur, and will soon be still more so, when his Lordship has completed those alterations and improvements, which now deprive us of the pleasure of seeing them. Mr. Walpole speaks with contempt of its architecture, and says it was built by Mr. Archer, the groom-porter, "all whose specimens of wretched taste may be seen in the Vitruvius Britannicus; but the chef d'œuvre of his absurdity was the church of St. John, with four belfrys, in Westminster."

September 5th. We pursued our course through Chipping-Norton, a place of note in the time of the Saxons, as its name signifies; in the reign of Edward I. it sent members to parliament one session; and twice in Edward III's reign, but never since I believe. William Fitz-Alan of Clun, was lord of this manor, then called Norton, 6 of k. John, and obtained a charter for an annual fair here. How long this town and manor continued in this family, (afterwards earls of Arundel) we have no particular account; but we find in the reign of Henry VI. it was the estate of the earls of Oxford, of whom John, earl of Oxford, adhering to the Lancastrian party, was, after the victory of Edward IV. in Barnet Field, taken prisoner, and his estate forfeited to the crown. Leland says, the Croftes were the ancient lords of this town, since that the Rodneys, and then the Comptons who bought it. Its present appearance is very good, being situated on the side of a pleasant hill, and built mostly of stone, with which this country abounds.

* He succeeded to a large estate in Ireland, on the death of his father, in autumn, 1787.

About four miles to the right of Chipping-Norton, at the extremity of the county adjoining Warwickshire, is a curious monument of antiquity, called Rolle-rich-stones, a heap of large rough stones set up in a ring, like Stone Henge, in Wiltshire, but smaller; various have been the opinions concerning this place, but we may rightly conclude with Camden, that as the Danes and Saxons had battles hereabouts, it was raised in memory of some victory.

By a steep and winding road through pleasant pastures, from Chipping-Norton, we passed the small village of Salford, beautifully surrounded with wood, where is a good stone house, with suitable offices, belonging to Mr. Newton, whose property is very considerable about this place. A little to the left we saw another white mansion, the seat of Mr. Penystone, at Cornwall. The united improvements of these two places are an ornament to this part of the country, and a transient gratification to the traveller. More to the left in the adjacent parish of Dailsford, Governor Hastings, who is a native of that place, has lately repurchased an estate which his ancestors had possessed for several generations, and is now making habitable a mansion, which was begun about 60 years ago, but never finished. A little further in the same direction is Oddington, the seat of sir John Read; where also is a well of calcareous water, famous for curing a local flux disease amongst cattle, called the Otmoor evil, from its being caught by their grazing upon that moor. Ascending now the great hill before us, we enter a small part of Worcestershire, and have an extensive prospect over the several counties, which meet in the plain below. On the right hill we saw a neatly wooded house belonging to Mr. Sandys; and on the left is Chastleton, an old castle-like place, the seat of Mr. Jones. Not far from which is a fortification or barrow, cast up by the Danes about 1016, when King Edmund, surnamed Ironside, met Canutus, the Dane, hereabouts, and defeated him after a long and bloody battle. In the valley we passed by the village of Little Compton, and saw an ancient house of Lady Fane, who is aunt to the Baronet at Oddington, before-mentioned, and at whose death he is likely to receive an ample increase to his fortune. At the horizontal boundary we could now clearly distinguish the fine old tower of Stow-on-the-Woulds, situate on a bleak eminence, apparently barren and uncultivated, and if common report be credited, they have but one element, viz. air; there being neither wood, common field, nor water, belonging to the town. The four shire-stone was the next object we approached, which is a large square figure by the road side, six miles from Chipping-Norton, and eighty from London. On its several sides are graven the names of the counties for which it was erected, viz. Worcester, Gloucester, Warwick, and Oxford. Camden and Plott believe this to be the spot where the above-mentioned battle was fought; but the author of the additions to Camden, disapproves of this conjecture, because the old scierstane, or Shire-stone, where the battle was fought, is proved by him to be in Wiltshire.

Being now in Gloucestershire, we passed a village called Moreton-in-the-Marsh, and approached Burton-on-the-Hill. To the right we had a pleasing view of a handsome house of Mr. Freeman, situated on the side of the hill, richly embosomed in foliage and otherwise ornamented. This gentleman, we were told, possesses immense property both in land and money, but most of the latter; his only son died last spring in London, and left a young daughter, who, it is said, will be a very rich heiress. Having gained the vast summit, on whose declivity Burton is securely placed, the prospect increased greatly on our backs, but forward, a dreary waste for many miles. The famous Roman Fosseway comes out of Warwickshire, by Lemington, Stow-on-the-Would, and this place; which by the tracks of houses frequently discovered, must have been

once of note ; here also the marks of a large camp are to be seen. A few miles further on our left from the turnpike, stands a neat box belonging to lord Coventry, called Spring-hill ; had this property been on the opposite side, facing the beautiful vale of Evesham, which commences here, the whole would have worn a different aspect. In this delicious vale we see the small town of Blockley, near which Sir John Rushout has a neat mansion with large property this way. We now came to a small house of entertainment, the Fish, on Broadway-hill, where we spent an hour in glorious contemplation, from the room built like a summer-house, for this purpose ; sir John Rushout's here became very distinct ; sir John Cotterel, knt. has lately erected, on the side of this hill, a castle-looking-place, fronting the vale ; Ragley, lord Beauchamp's, we could likewise distinguish below ; these, besides the several towns of Broadway, Evesham, Bengworth, &c. together with the distant mountains, Malvern in particular, conspired to give us sufficient anticipation of our future delights. We descended now, by a well formed serpentine road, cut through this vast declivity, to the neat town below. The views were every way pleasing ; the fields well cultivated and roads good. We could from hence distinguish Tuddington-park, the seat of the ancient family of Lord Tracey. We dined at Bengworth, a small part of the borough of Evesham, separated from it by the river Avon, in its course to the Severn, at Tewkesbury. A bridge of six large arches, communicates between these two places. The river is navigable for coals, &c. from Worcester and Bridgnorth ; but no other trade or traffic seems to enliven this town. The extensive vale that surrounds it, and takes its name from thence, is, for its fruitfulness, justly styled the granary of those parts.

The monkish writers derive the name of Evesham, or Evesham from Eoves, swine-herd to Egwin bishop of Worcester. Near the bridge stood anciently the castle of Bengworth, as it were in the suburbs, which William d'Audville, an abbot of this place, recovering from William Beauchamp, the hereditary sheriff of this county, utterly demolished, and caused the ground to be consecrated for a church yard, where a church was afterwards built. Leland describes Evesham, as large and well-built with timber ; and to have a fair market place, with divers pretty streets. We cannot now pass proportionate encomiums upon it ; it has not altered sufficiently with the times. But the principal glory of this place, was an abbey for Benedictine monks, founded by Kenred, king of the Mercians ; and Egwin, bishop of Worcester, about 700. It consisted of 67 monks, besides an abbot, and other inferior officers, having 22 towns and manors left for their support. At the dissolution, the annual revenues, according to Dugdale, amounted to 1183l. 12s. 9d. What sort of fabricks the abbey church and monastery were, cannot now be discovered, because they were utterly demolished at the dissolution, except the beautiful square tower built by abbot Lichfield, who it is said, broke his heart, when he saw the havock, which was made of the church and other buildings. Nor would the tower have escaped the same fate, had not he and the townsmen purchased it for their own use. This lofty relick of antiquity is wrought with the finest composites of Gothic architecture, is about 100 feet high, and stands upon a base of 22 feet square ; the east and west fronts are similar, decorated with chaste and simple ornaments. Under, is a fine elliptic arch, which was the principal entrance to the abbey. The great bell which formerly belonged to it, was recast along with some others given by the town, to make eight good ones for this tower.

In the annals of history, this town was very famous for the overthrow of the barons, and of Simon Mountfort, earl of Leicester, our English Cataline ; whose extreme perfidy to Henry III. most strongly evinced the truth of that saying "favours are esteemed obligations no longer than they can be requited." For when the king had, with a

liberal hand heap'd all possible favours upon him, and given him his own sister to wife, he shewed no other returns than the most violent hatred, raising up dangerous wars, and miserably laying waste many parts of England, under pretence of redressing grievances and asserting its liberties, leaving no method unpractised, whereby he might depose the king, and change the government from a monarchy to an oligarchy. But after he had flourished a while in his enterprize, he with many others of his party, fell in this place, being subdued in a pitched battle by the valour of prince Edward. Upon this happy event a welcome peace, which had been before banished, again returned. This town is an ancient borough, and enjoys many privileges both by prescription and divers charters; but at present is greatly divided, and almost in a drooping state. In the year 1697, Sir John Sommers had the barony of this place added to his title; who being a person of extraordinary endowments, and early taken notice of for his great abilities in the law, was chosen to plead the cause of the imprisoned Bishops in the reign of James II; and at the revolution, he was made successively solicitor-general, attorney-general, lord-keeper, and lord chancellor of England, being also universally esteemed to be the ablest statesman of this age.

On the right of Evesham lie the three Littletons, from the nearest of which, called South Littleton, the famous family of the Littletons undoubtedly took their name; for they had possessions here and elsewhere in the vale of Evesham, in the reign of Henry III; and at that time, and often since, were considerable benefactors to the abbey, last described. About 19th of Henry III, they married the heiress of Frankley, in this neighbourhood, and from hence made that their principal seat till it was cruelly burnt down and plundered in the rebellion, against Charles I. The heiress of this family, in the reign of Henry IV. marrying Thomas Westcote, Esq. had issued by him the famous Judge, who took his mother's name, and was author of the well known book of Tenures. A series of men of eminence from his time have rendered the family not unworthy their great descendant, the good, and the illustrious George Lord Littleton, one of the great ornaments of this and the last reign. Hagley, the present seat of the family, which lies on the opposite borders of the county, next Staffordshire, was bought for an hunting seat in the reign of Queen Elizabeth, and rebuilt by the noble peer just mentioned.

From hence we continued along the south side of the river; which we crossed about six miles below, at Pershore; having met with no remarkable object, except Elmley castle, situated on the broad summit of Bredon hills, which, though considerably less, rise towards Malvern with a kind of emulation. This castle once belonged to Urfus or Urso d'Abtot, by whose daughter and heir Emeline it descended, together with Upton, Bentley, and divers other lordships in this country, to Walter de Beauchamp, who made the castle his seat, which continued so to his descendants for many ages. In the 17th year of the reign of King John, Walter Beauchamp, great grandson of the above-mentioned Walter, was in possession of this castle, but falling off from his allegiance to the barons, his lands were seized; yet he afterwards obtained the restitution of this castle and and sherriffalty. This noble family also possessed the city of Worcester, and its castle for many years, being afterwards earls of Warwick till issue male failing, their great estates, by marriage of Anne, the heiress, with Richard Neville, passed into that family, who thereby became earls of Warwick.

Pershore, so called from the pear-trees, which flourished in the soil here, was formerly a town of some consequence, and had a Benedictine monastery founded (according to William of Malmesbury) by Egelward, duke of Dorset, a man of a generous spirit, and wholly devoted to acts of piety. "But alas! (says that excellent historian)

what

what vast losses hath it since sustained! part the ambition of great men hath seized, and part is forgotten and lost, and a very considerable part of its possessions, the Kings, Edward and William, bestowed on Westminster Abbey." At the dissolution its revenues were valued at 643l. 4s. 5d. *per annum*. (Dugdale.) The town is neatly built with one principal street. The parish church is a large stone structure of Gothic, and would have been handsome, had not the heavy roof of the tower destroyed the effect. Our drive the remainder of this evening was uncommonly pleasant; the roads excellent; the harvest chiefly gathered, except those ruddy crops which now began to hang gracefully round our heads, dispensing their odours through the atmosphere, while our eyes were fondly gazing on the sun's departing rays, which tinged the lofty hills of Malvern with their glowing purple.

————— Autumn paints
 Ausonian hills with grapes, whilst English plains
 Blush with pomaceous harvests, breathing sweets.
 Oh! let me now, when the kind early dew
 Unlocks th' embosom'd odours, walk among
 The well rang'd files of trees, whose full-ag'd stores
 Diffuse ambrosial streams*.

Thus the whole face of nature put on an aspect of beauteous serenity, and we arrived at the noble capital, as twilight threw her dusky mantle over the day, and ushered in the night. The following morning we arose early to inspect the beauties and magnificence of this excellent city, pre-eminent over most in this kingdom. But first it may not be improper to premise something of its antiquity, which has been allowed remote by all historians; the derivation of its name seems to have been Saxon, signifying a warrior's place of retirement; it was a city probably built by the Romans, (said to have been founded by Constantius Chlorus) when, to prevent the incursions of the Britons on the opposite side of the river, they planted cities, as fortresses on the east bank. Its situation is delightful, on this side of the Severn, commanding distant and charming views towards the south-west. It was originally "fenced with lofty Roman walls," as we learn from an old parchment roll. Leland says "that there were six gates within the walls; Bridge-gate on the Severn, having a goodly square tower over it; a posterne-gate by St. Clement's church, near the north side of the bridge; the Fore-gate, a fair piece of work standing to the north; Sudbury-gate standing east in the way to London; St. Martin's-gate; and Trinity-gate, which was a posterne. The castle, (continues he) which stood on the south side of the cathedral church almost on the Severn, fell to ruin soon after the conquest, and half the ground of it was given to augment the close of the priory." He likewise adds, there were divers fair streets well built with timber; but the fairest and most celebrated is from the bishop's palace-gate to the Fore-gate towards the north. There are eight parish churches in the town, of which St. Helen is counted most ancient; it was a prebend, before King Edgar's time, to the cathedral. And I have heard, (says he) that all the churches in Worcester, before King Edgar placed monks in the cathedral, were but chapels to it. But what the original form and buildings of this city were, cannot now be ascertained, so frequently has it suffered from destructive fires. In the year 1041, King Hardy-Cnute, in order to revenge himself upon the inhabitants, for having killed some of his huscarles, or tax-gatherers, massacred most of the citizens, set the town on fire, and spoiled much of the country round. Nevertheless we find in the Conqueror's survey (drawn up

* Thomson.

about 40 years after) that in the time of Edward the Confessor, it had many burghesses, and was rated at 15 hides of land. In the reign of William Rufus, 1088, Roger de Montgomery, earl of Shrewsbury, with a large body of Welch, assaulted the city, over-run the suburbs, and set them on fire; but the citizens, by a valiant resistance, and afterwards by an advantageous sally out upon their enemies, slew and took above 5000, and so freed themselves from the siege. In the year 1113, it was almost wholly destroyed by a casual fire, the castle and cathedral being also much damaged. In the civil wars between King Stephen and the Empress Maud, when the city and castle belonged to William Beauchamp, of Elmley, before-mentioned, it was burnt entirely to the ground. Nor were the misfortunes of this city here concluded, for in 1175, 21st of Henry II. the new tower belonging to the church fell down; in 1202, the city was again involved in conflagration, and in 1216, after having submitted to the dauphin of France, it was taken by the earl of Chester. The kings in those days used to keep their Christmas in some one of their great cities. King Henry I. in 1130, kept his Christmas here, as did also Henry II. 1158, with great royalty, who sat in the church at divine service with the crown upon his head, as the kings in those days always used to do at solemn feasts; but he afterwards placed it upon the altar, in sign of his humility, which seemed real, because he never after regarded to wear his crown. King John also kept his Christmas here, 1214, when divers of the nobility came with their petitions about the changing of laws, which afterwards caused the civil war, and the taking of the city as above. Whether we consider most its various sufferings by accidental and wilful fires, which have been so numerous and dreadful or its oppressions and calamities in the civil wars, we look with astonishment at its present flourishing condition, the seat of opulence and much trade; nor is it less happy in its numbers of independent families, besides those respectable and dignified characters, usually found in the precincts of a cathedral. The streets are in general remarkably good, particularly High-street and Fore-gate, which latter is of a regularity in pavement and building, superior to most I have seen out of London. We now visited the cathedral, (made an episcopal see, by Ethelred, king of the Mercians,) which bishop Wulstan principally erected in 1084; this suffered more than once by fire; June 14th, 1113, when the city and castle were in flames, it felt the same calamity; one monk and 20 inhabitants are said to have perished. April 17th, 1202, this church was again involved in conflagration, together with the greater part of the city. In 1218, it was raised and consecrated a-new, and in the presence of Henry III. &c. dedicated to the Virgin Mary, St. Peter, and Oswald and Wulstan. It has since, at various times, received considerable additions, but its present appearance is not very large or striking on the outside, and the tower is not sufficiently high for its breadth and the other parts. The inside from east to west is 394 feet, breadth about 120. It is in excellent repair; but there is nothing much to admire in its architecture, after the several others so superior. The painted glass is entirely destroyed, which takes greatly from its grandeur; the choir is handsome, and the organ capital. At the upper end of the choir is a noble monument of King John, whose body was conveyed hither from Newark by the earl of Pembroke. His effigy lies on the tomb crowned. In his right hand is a sceptre, in his left a sword, whose point is received in the mouth of a lion couchant at his feet. He died October 19th, 1215, in the 51st year of his age, and 18th of his reign. We were next shewn Arthur's chapel, covering the monument of that prince, elder brother of Henry VIII. which is the most curious stone workmanship in this cathedral, variously decorated with images, arms of England, and other royal badges. The fretted arched roof is curious and beautiful. Since this inspection we are informed Mr. V. Green has made

a curious discovery under a heavy coat of plaister, to hide them from the Oliverian rage; there are a series of Arthur's progenitors, the partizans in the contentions of York and Lancaster, the symbols of whose union are well exemplified in the external decorations. Mr. Green conjectures he has distinguished Henry VII. and Edward IV. with their queens. The stone pulpit in the choir opposite, is well worth notice, being a most elegantly carved Gothic octagon; in the back is distinctly seen a representation of Jerusalem carved in the same durable materials. Besides a variety of ancient and modern tombs, and monuments, in the north transept near the clock is a superb marble piece of sculpture, erected to the memory of Dr. John Hough, bishop of this diocese, and head of Magdalen college, Oxford. He is represented in a recumbent posture; his right elbow resting on some books; his hands joined and raised in those acts of devotion, which his countenance so highly expresses. The drapery is inimitably fine. To the left stands the figure of Religion with her book in one hand, whilst with the other she is lifting up the flowing edge of his garment, to display underneath another representation in miniature, where he is standing before that tribunal, the High Commission Court, which ejected him from his college government. Three tools of tyranny are seated on the bench, and a secretary is minuting their proceedings, whilst this venerable prelate, at the head of the Fellows, is making his defensive harrangue. Rou-billiac has the honour of this masterly piece of sculpture, which is the admiration of all beholders and the finest in these, or perhaps any other parts of England. That in Westminster Abbey of bishop Nightingale, by the same hand, so universally admired, perhaps may be greater in some points, though I can scarce think it altogether superior. This however I shall leave for better judges to determine.

The chapter-house adjacent is a large decagon, supported by a central pillar, 45 feet high, and 55 in diameter. Many curious missal MSS. and valuable books are here repositied; on the walls are a few old portraits of bishops, &c. There are many other excellent public buildings in this city, and many laudable charities, but too numerous for a place in these pages. Here are considerable manufactures of gloves, carpets, &c. but the principal and most worthy notice is, the porcelain china, which we visited. Those who have ever seen the process of the Staffordshire ware, or other similar works, need not be informed how this is made; the substance used for these articles is a secret composition moulded and formed into various designs like common clay: blue and white are the characteristic colours of this manufactory, which are laid on either by a plate or pencil; the blue, when first put on, appears a deadish brown, or some other dubious tint; but after the operation of the fire, is changed to a permanent and perfect blue.

This being market-day, we had an opportunity of seeing the principal commodities for sale, and their public repositories and rooms of traffic, particularly the Guildhall and Hop-house; the former is esteemed with truth a most elegant and commodious building, presenting a light and well-adorned front to the high-street, the inside of which is one admirable room, 100 feet by 25 and 21. Its sides are occupied by two spacious courts of justice, in which are held the assizes and sessions for the county and city. At each end of the long room are three whole length portraits of Charles I. Queen Anne, earl of Plymouth, Sir John Packington, &c. This was the second day of the new hop-market, which we saw abundantly supplied, and of good quality; though the produce of the season was no more than what is called half crop; yet the price was now reduced in less than a fortnight, from sixteen pounds to seven *per* hundred; an astonishing variation, owing to the late scarcity of old hops, for which the inhabitants had then given the extravagant price of three shillings and sixpence *per* pound.

pound. It was expected that the fair, which was to commence in less than a fortnight, would more permanently fix this dubious value.

We now took leave of this glorious capital, and crossed the Severn,* for Hereford, over a new and elegant bridge, of five magnificent arches, built under the inspection of Mr. John Gwin, architect. The first stone was laid by the Earl of Coventry, and the whole finished in 1780. The toll houses are elegant domes, similar to Black Friars, on each side is a spacious and handsome quay where much traffic from Bristol and the coal mines is carried on. The road is stoney and disagreeable, but our attention was diverted for several miles with the abundance of variegated fruit, hanging gracefully on each side the road; this season is very extraordinary, and to pluck a rosy bloom, from amidst such temptation, is deemed neither sin nor robbery. In our way we passed on our left Powick, where was formerly the seat of another branch of the Beauchamps, denominated of that place. From one of the heiresses who married Lord Willoughby of Broke, about the time of Henry VIII., is descended the present Greville, Earl of Warwick, who from thence quarters the arms, &c. of the ancient earls; from another heiress who married a Ligon, is descended, as I take for granted, the present representative for this county; whose seat is at Madresfield in this neighbourhood, near which we soon afterwards passed.

We now arrived at Malvern, a small hamlet at the feet of those immense hills, that had been our principal object for many miles. Ordering dinner at this charming inn, we procured an intelligent guide to conduct us to the highest summit; the day being favorable and pleasant, I scarce remember a more enchanting excursion, without a possibility of fatigue from so gradual an ascent on nature's carpet, and in little more than half an hour we gained this summit of perfection. When we say perfection, we mean in a limited sense; there are certainly two sorts of perfection, relative and absolute. If the parts of a scene be beautiful, we are content to ascribe to it the honor of the first; but of the other, the ingredients must not only be beautiful, but of every possible variety. In different countries, or different parts of the same country, many sorts of the former may always be found, but the latter I fear is seldom, if ever, to be met with in all the vast round of sublunary researches. We mount the high tops of a Skiddaw, or Ben Lomond, and are lost in wonder and admiration of those immense heaps of rocks that tower around us; they are undoubtedly formed for astonishment and delight, and are the source of sublimest ideas; but let not these alone engross our whole attention, or alienate our affections entirely from other objects; let us cast our eye a while on this extensive scenery around us and compare the difference: on one side, a champain of the richest cultivation possible, interspersed with innumerable mansions, lawns, woods, and the other golden plantations of the country; peopled with chearful and thriving

* This noble river, called by the Britons Havren, the Romans, Sabrina, and the English, Severn, rises out of a high mountain in Montgomeryshire, called Plynlymon; after having received the waters of seven small streams it enters Shropshire, and being joined by several brooks, at length reaches Welch Pool; being in the space of 20 miles, become from a slender silver stream, a very deep and copious river, and is navigable from thence to its mouth. From Welch Pool it proceeds by the splendid and populous town of Shrewsbury, then runs south east to Bridgenorth; and from thence, declining still more to the south, enters Worcestershire, and proceeds to Bewdley. Swelled with concurring streams, it traverses this county entirely, and having watered, amongst others, Worcester and Upton, it passes forward to Gloucestershire, and rolls to Tewksbury, from whence, having visited the city and capital of that county, it travels forward, and meeting still with fresh accessions of waters, grows to such a size as to be stiled the Severn sea, pouring its tide, after a progress of more than 130 miles, into the Bristol Channel.

Campbell's Survey.

towns, and enlivened by the busy streams of the Severn and the Avon. These are the principal features in the vale of Evesham; on the opposite side are various winding valleys, mingled with hop-grounds, gardens, seats and swelling hills of verdant wood, all sweetly softened by the mellow light of autumn, and encircled by a majestic range of mountains; the Wreking, and Clay-hills in Shropshire, seen over Ludlow; the Black-mountains in Brecknockshire; the Skimming hills in Monmouthshire; Abergaveny, and Ledbury mount; Gloucestershire hills over the city and Cheltenham, the Leeky hills towards Birmingham, &c. In short nothing is here wanting to constitute the beautiful, but here is a deficiency in those two grand composites of the north, rock and lakes, to constitute the sublime. With these additions we should then find them an absolute perfection.

If we contemplate these scenes too with the eye of an historian, what a train of ideas will they afford! instead of groves of shining fruits, we may fancy moving armies of glittering spears and helmets; instead of yon silver gliding streams, we may imagine rivers of blood; such were these plains when haughty Cromwell, and his 30,000 men marched over them, and appeared on Red-hill against Charles II. with only 1200 in August, 1651. No more now the din of war is heard; Tewksbury*. Upton, Powick, and thou fair city, Worcester, your lofty towers no more are seen to shake, your buildings fall in dreadful conflagration, nor streets pour down the sanguine flood. All now arise in conscious harmony to gild these scenes, now sunk in peace and crowned with plenty. Maintain long this lovely reign ye sons of fame! and ye who reap the fruits of industry, store in your plenteous and golden crops, and quaff your homely nectar, in joyful tranquillity.

Descending now this noble velvet mountain, the former scene diminishing in soft gradation before our sight, through the perspective confines of these hills, afforded new and infinite delight, till we again arrived at our inn. After dinner we visited the internal display of that great Gothic feature the church; which is perhaps as great a curiosity of its kind as any to be met with. Part of it was a religious cell for hermits before the conquest, the greater part with the tower, was built in the 18th year of the conqueror, by one Aldwin an hermit. The outward appearance is very striking, the architecture, though large, is light and pleasing, and cannot fail to impress the traveller on his approach, with an idea of its antiquity and worth; they shewed us a copy of an antique manuscript at the Inn, giving a full account of its origin, the history of painted glass, &c. which is in high preservation, and of beautiful colours and designs; but as Dr. Nash has given a minute account of every thing in his history of the county, the omission of it here is of no consequence. The antiquarian in contemplating its different styles of building, the Gothic and the Saxon, the glass, the various monuments and coats of arms, &c. may find employment for many hours. One very curious tomb we saw of a Saxon Knight, with his battle-ax and other accoutrements, supposed to be the only one of this kind in England.

We now pursued our course to Ledbury, on a smooth winding road by the wells, at Little Malvern, famous for their salutary qualities, and the pureness of the air. About

* Famous too for the bloody overthrow of the Lancastrians in 1741. Whence J. Leland thus writes, translated,

“Where Avon’s friendly streams with Severn join,
Great Tewksbury’s walls, renown’d for trophies, shine,
And keep the sad remains, with pious care,
Of noble souls, the honor of the war.”

six miles west of Ledbury, near the conflux of the Lugg and Wye, lies Marcley-hill, which in 1575, after shaking and roaring for three days, to the great horror and astonishment of the neighbourhood, began to move about six o'clock on Sunday evening, and continued moving till two next morning, it then stood still, having carried along with it the trees that grew upon it, and the sheep-folds and flocks. In the place from whence it removed, it left a gap of 400 feet wide, and 320 long. The spot whereon this hill stood contained about 20 acres.

Ledbury is a mean ill-built town, situate in a rich vale, south of these hills; the meadows and pasturage around it appear very fertile; on an average they let for three pounds an acre. After reposing here one night, we proceeded to Hereford; the day was mild and clear, which gave the vale and hills around a most enchanting glow; hop grounds and ruddy orchards spread their gaudy bloom around us; and that no space may be lost, the vacant spots of the ground, which is planted with trees, are covered with grain. The following description by an admired bard is a very lively picture of this country.

“Lo, on auxiliary poles, the hops
Ascending spiral, rang'd in meet array!
Lo, how the arable with barley grain
Stands thick, o'ershadow'd to the thirsty hind
Transporting project! these, as modern use
Ordains, infus'd, an auburn drink compose,
Wholesome, of deathless fame. Here to the sight,
Apples of price, and plenteous sheaves of corn,
Oft interlac'd, occur, and both imbibe
Fitting conjenial juice; so rich the soil,
So much does fructureous moisture o'er abound!
Nor are the hills unamiable, whose tops
To heav'n aspire, affording prospect sweet
To human ken; nor at their feet the vales
Descending gently, where the lowing herd
Chew verd'rous pasture; nor the yellow fields
Gaily interchang'd, with rich variety
Pleasing, as when an emerald green, enchas'd
In flaming gold, from the bright mass acquires
A nobler hue, more delicate to sight.
Next add the Sylvan shades, and silent groves,
(Haunt of the Druids) whence the earth is fed
With copious fuel, whence the sturdy oak,
A prince's refuge once, th' eternal guard
Of England's throne, by sweating peasants fell'd
Stems the vast main, and bears tremendous war
To distant nations, or with sov'reign sway,
Awe the divided world to peace and love.”†

About three miles distant we passed a large house, called Versen, Mr. Horne's, which, from its construction and appearance, gave us the idea of the comforts of an opulent farmer. Two miles onward we observed an ancient white mansion, furrounded with a moat, called Mansen, the late Mr. Jones's, now Mr. Derbin's, who married his widow. The country was now confined, but rich and pleasant; Mr. Hopeton's old house, now only appropriated to a farm, was our next object, under a fine range of hills on our left, and called the World's-end; a name ill applied amidst such a profusion of cultivation. The hops were now more abundant and flourishing, and other crops in great plenty.

† Philips's Cyder, book 1st. page 127.

Passed the village of Tarrington, with a neat old church and parsonage. The next and principal object, was the honourable Edward Foley's beautiful place at Stoke Edith. This was the seat of the late lord Foley, and his ancestors, while they continued a younger branch; but when he succeeded to the mansion and estate of the elder line, at Whitley, in Worcestershire, he of course made that his principal residence, and left this to his second son, the present possessor. The house is large, and wears an ancient aspect, but the principal front is turned from the road, its surrounding shrubs break the ill effect of too great an intimacy with passengers; a bridge communicates with the park over the road, which we passed under. The views from every point are pleasing and picturesque, and from the next ascent the house and parish spire, very high and beautiful, formed a delightful group with the variegated ground adjacent, and finally terminated by the Malvern-hills. Farther on our left stands Longworth, an agreeable seat of Mr. Waldwin, member for Hereford. Where his ancestors have been seated, at least ever since the reign of Henry IV. from which time they have been continually sheriffs, and in other high offices in the county. A little way behind Longworth, lies Lugwardyne, once the estate and seat of the Chandos's and Brydges's, from whom it was sold to the Warneford's, and came in marriage from them to the Harley's, I believe. Winding again to the right we had a final and most graceful prospect of Stoke-Edith, softened by the mellow shades of landscapes, viewed at a distance. The pencil of the artist might here be variously employed to advantage; and though the surface of the road cannot be esteemed of the best, and most agreeable texture, yet the admirer of nature and superior cultivation, may in this morning's ride, be amply rewarded. Descending towards the city, the distant views are grand and charming, particularly the rich scenes of Foxley, and Hampton-court, Lord Malden's, to the right, and the fine vale in front, terminated by the hills in Monmouthshire and Brecknock. We now crossed the river Lugg into an extensive meadow from whence we viewed Sufton-court to the left, a bad old house of white materials, almost sunk in the bosom of an hill; this is remarkable for having been the residence of the Hereford family ever since the 7th of Henry III. the late possessor, sir James Hereford, died about three years since very old, having amassed from a small estate considerable wealth, which he left to Mr. Caldecot, his nephew, who has now changed his name to Hereford. I understand he intends soon to grace this respectable spot with a more considerable mansion. On a nearer approach to the city, a dullness seemed to pervade the whole, and the heaviness of the Cathedral was quite oppressive to the sight; but for this we could account, for on a closer examination it had lost the spire, which had been lately taken down, from an apprehension of danger, since the great fall of the western end of the building, which happened two years ago, and still lies in ruins; this was infinitely the finest part, and when in perfect state, its tower was esteemed very beautiful architecture; the print which remains of it, certainly gives this idea. The whole internal length was 393 feet; transept 140; the height of the middle steeple, 244; west tower 125. Mr. Wyatt has made an estimate, and the walls are just begun to be raised upon the former plan, with a handsome window, but without the tower. It was originally built by bishop Reinelm, in the reign of Henry I. and enlarged by succeeding bishops. In its present ruinous state, we could find but little to attract our notice. Nor does the city merit any particular encomiums; the buildings are mostly mean and insignificant, and the streets narrow and bad. Here are now only four parish churches, two having been destroyed in the late civil wars. It is governed by a Mayor, six Aldermen, Recorder, &c. Its markets are well supplied; and here is a considerable manufacture of gloves. The antiquity of it cannot be doubted; evident marks of this are easily discovered. Camden says it is situated amongst
6 meadows

meadows extremely pleasant, and corn fields very fruitful. It is supposed to have sprung up, when the Saxon heptarchy was in its glory; founded (as some write) by Edward the elder; no mention being made of it more ancient. The Britains, before the name of Hereford was known, called the place, Trefawith, from beech trees, which still grow abundantly about here. It owes its greatest encrease to religion, and the horrible murder of Ethelbert King of the East-Angles; who, whilst he courted the daughter of Offa, king of the Mercians, was villainously way-laid and murdered by Quindreda, Offa's wife, who longed more for the kingdom of the East-Angles, than to see her daughter honorably married. He was upon this action, enrolled amongst the catalogue of martyrs, and had a church here built, and dedicated to him by Mildred, a petty prince of this country; which being soon after adorned with a bishop's see grew very rich, first by the liberality of the Mercians, and afterwards of the west Saxon king. This city suffered no great calamity till 1055, when Griffin, prince of South Wales, and Algar, an Englishman, rebelling against Edward the Confessor, and having routed Earl Ralph, sacked the city, destroyed the cathedral, and carried away Leofgar the bishop. Hence it is that Malmesbury writes thus: "Hereford is no great city, and yet by the high and formidable ruins of its steep and broken bulwarks, it shews that it has been considerable:" and as it appears by Domesday book, "there were in all but 103 men, within and without the walls." The Normans afterwards very much improved and enlarged it. William Fits Osborn, a kinsman of the conqueror, and first earl of Hereford, walled it round, and fortified it with a strong castle, on the scite where the old cathedral stood. Leland says, "that this castle, by the ruins, appeared to be one of the fairest, largest, and strongest in England. The walls were high and firm, and full of great towers; and where the river was not a sufficient defence for it, there it was strongly ditched. It had two wards, and each of them surrounded with water; the dungeon was high, and exceedingly well fortified, having, in the outward wall or ward, 26 towers of a semi-circular figure, and one great tower in the inner ward. Some think that Heraldus began this castle, after he had conquered the rebellion of the Welch, in Edward the confessor's time. Others think, that the Lacies and the Bohuns, earls of Hereford, were the great builders of it.

This city being situated in a frontier country, was continually liable to the inroads of rapacious warriors, plunderers, and rebels. When the barons broke out in rebellion against Henry III. they commenced their hostilities at this place, under the command of Simon Mountfort, earl of Leicester; who, as we before remarked, fell a victim to his perfidy and ambition, in that remarkable battle at Evesham, by which the great power of the barons was diminished, and that of the commons enlarged. Here also, when the barons took up arms against Edward II. Hugh Spencer, earl of Gloucester, and several others, the favourites of that prince were hanged. Near this place was likewise fought a bloody battle between Henry VI. and the earl of March, (afterwards Edward IV.) when the latter conquered; and having taken several of the Welch nobility, amongst which was Owen Tudor, and others, prisoners, ordered them to be cruelly executed in this city. In the civil wars between Charles I. and the Parliament, this place was strong and well fortified and made several brave defences against the Scots, and the Oliverians. Scarce a trace of the castle is now remaining; on its scite are admirable walks, called the castle green, formed and kept in neat order by the corporation; the river Wye runs underneath, which together with its antique bridge adds greatly to the pleasing prospect from hence. If we look round its neighbouring hills and mountains, we shall find strong marks of the visits of the Romans, and other encampments; particularly on the summits of Creden-hill, and Dindermore, the one towards Bradwardine,

Bradwardine, the other near the road to Ross; on the former are many appearances of there having been a Roman station. It is certain Lord Leven here fixed his army during the siege of Hereford, in the civil wars. The latter displays stronger marks of those ancient encampments, being visibly square, which I believe is a pretty certain characteristic of the Romans; besides the corroborating evidence of an adjacent hill now bearing the name of Oister, no doubt a corruption of Ostorius Scapula who commanded in these parts. In the suburbs stand the ruins of a monastic-looking pile, supposed to have been a religious house, which was given by William III, to lord Coningsby, who afterwards made it a town residence; this going to decay by future neglect, lord Coningsby, to perpetuate his name by a laudable institution, built and founded an hospital adjoining, for the care and maintenance of 16 poor, which we minutely inspected; their habitations are small, but warm and comfortable; the old gardens afford each a very handsome allotment. One of these aged people attended us, who was 88, and well remembered his Lord's ancient fabric in a more flourishing and habitable state. In the same ground we saw a curious relic of antiquity, gothically built and pretty perfect, which together with some boughs of elder hanging carelessly round its walls, was exceedingly picturesque. It is an octagon with windows arched, and steps quite round, but only one internal approach; through the top runs a thin stone pillar several feet high, on which I suppose was a cross, as it is thought to have belonged to the monastery, as an object of worship.

September 9th. A delightful morning, which we appropriated to an excursion northward, principally to see Mr. Price's noble grounds, &c. at Foxley, and to enjoy that enchanting scene in its vicinity, from an hill called Lady-Lift. The Bradwardine road was our course for some time, we then deviated to the right; a little more than a mile from this city, on some waste land by the road side, we saw a large old pillar of stone much wrought, with steps round the base similar to those we often see in small towns; no authentic account is given of it, but by tradition it is believed to have been erected in time of a plague, when the country people were afraid to approach the city, for the purpose of holding market, and is at this day called White-cross. We now passed through a village, and entered Foxley grounds; the well clothed hills of wood on each side are very noble. The house is not in unison with this external magnificence, a square brick built place, heavy and ungraceful; though there is no appearance of shew, the inside no doubt is good and comfortable, and I was told contains some paintings worth notice; this we omitted, but had leave to drive through the beautiful gardens, &c. which soon led us on a most glorious terrace between the two vales; thus we continued through a bowery shade, which was most acceptable, as it protected us from the fervent beams of the sun, till we arrived at the sweet object of our wishes; a place that most amply repaid our steep ascent.

Oh nature how supreme! O Queen of hills
 Enchanting Lady-Lift! thy beauteous form,
 Art ne'er with her insipid vest hath veil'd.
 No foreign plumage decks thy full-crown'd head,
 No artificial flowers, the sickly growth
 Of the trim garden, wither on thy breast,
 But the fresh violet, and the harebell blue,
 And simple daisy, feel its cherishing warmth,
 And there delight to blow. Thy rich attire
 Is wove in nature's loom; the spreading arms
 Of the bold children of the forest deck
 Its waving sides; the lordly, dark-green oak,

The high aspiring ash, the glossy beech,
 And yellow chesnut, spangled with its fruits,
 In pleasing harmony combine their shades,
 Which gilded by the sun, a lovelier gold
 Display, than ever yet, with all the toil
 Of art and riches, deck'd an Eastern Queen.
 Nor often can the power of roaring winds,
 And boistrous storms, derange the ornaments
 Of nature's hand, but while the weakest breeze
 Puffs the vain robes of art in scorn away,
 They, as in mockery of the raving blast,
 But bend their boughs, or lift their heads on high.
 Oh! how then can the pomp of Empreses
 With Lady-Lift compare! Oh mark her power!
 Lo, with what placid majesty she sits
 And sways her wide and populous domain,
 The heavens her canopy, the earth her throne!
 She wants no vassals, Ethiopic slaves,
 To scatter balms and odours on her garb,
 Or softly fan her from the noon tide heat,
 The perfumes wafted on the fragrant wings
 Of gentle zephyrs, issuing from the South,
 Are substitutes by nature more delicious,
 Than all that art or fancy can create.
 Lo, with what sweet and unaffected charms,
 Her subjects smile under her peaceful sceptre!
 Beneath her feet hills gradually arise,
 In softest verdure clad; the golden vale
 Winds distant by, and streams meandering flow,
 Yielding to all their fruits and plenteous stores,
 In proudest triumph of the quiet reign.
 The traveller here, in quest of nature's charms
 Meets joyful welcome; not a frown austere
 Chills his approach or stops his curious eye,
 But all his wild researches are endear'd
 By every smile of sweet complacency.
 How eagerly around she strives to shew,
 The thousand beauties of her native land!
 The ripen'd orchards hung with ruddy orbs,
 That deck each rural scene, she first displays;
 Then wood-fringed lawns, fair seats and villages;
 Next proudly points to towers and battlements,
 That long have grac'd her much lov'd ancient See,
 The great metropolis of this fair realm;
 Lastly to yonder rugged range of hills,*
 Which seem like massy bulwarks rais'd on high
 To guard her loyal peace-encircled sons,
 From the rude progress of destructive foes.

Having thus gazed with rapture and admiration, we breathed our tribute of acknowledgement, and returned as we came, until a path led us into the valley on our right, and from thence across through an obscure village, Little Mansel, to Bradwardine, situate on the opposite side of the Wye; over which is a good bridge, and near to it are the imperfect traces of a castle, once strong and stately, which gave both origin and name to the famous Thomas Bradwardine, archbishop of Canterbury, in Edward III's time, who, for his great learning, and proficiency in the most abstruse arts and sciences, was called Doctor Profundus. This family had removed into Suffex, about three genera-

* The Black-mountains which divide this county from Wales.

tions before that great descendant was born. The object of this wide and tedious deviation, was to visit that sweet scene, we had viewed at a distance, called the Golden Vale, or by the Britons, Dyffrun-Aur; remarkable for its pleasant fertility of yellow flowers, with which it is covered, particularly in the spring. The evening was too far advanced when we had finished our homely repast, to allow us this further pleasure, so we brooked the disappointment like philosophers, and directed our nearest course to Hereford. In this vicinity we had a view of Mr. Byrche's neat mansion at Ganston, and of Moccas-court, the seat of Sir George Amyand (Cornwall) bart. a banker in London, who obtained it by marrying the heiress of the late Velters Cornwall, member in seven Parliaments for this county, whose ancestors had been seated here a long time, they being a branch (I presume) of the barons of Burford in Shropshire, mentioned by Camden, who were descended illegitimately from Richard earl of Cornwall, 2d son of King John; and the family now bear the arms of that earl, viz. Argt, a Lyon Rampt Gules, crowned Or, within a bordure fable, bezantè.* The late Mr. Cornwall drew much of the stone from the ruins of Bradwardine castle for the rebuilding this seat. The present possessor took the name of this family sometime since, and is now representative for the county. A few miles in our way, under a large hill picturesquely cloathed, we saw a white house belonging to Major Cotteril, son to the knight, Sir John, mentioned at Broadway. Onward, on our right we passed another new house, Mr. Parry's of the Ware, fronting the memorable and lofty station, Creden-hill, upon which, as we before-mentioned, is a very great camp, and mighty works, the graff being inwards as well as outwards; and the whole contains by estimation about 40 acres. About a mile from this, and nearer the river, lies Kenchester, supposed by Camden and others, to have been the Ariconium of Antoninus, having been destroyed, as is reported, by an earthquake; this supposition arises from some old walls, called Kenchester-walls, about which are often found stones of inlaid chequer-work, British-bricks, Roman coins, &c. And about 1669, was found in a wood, a great vault with tables of plaister in it. The vault itself was paved with stones; and thereabouts were dug up many pieces of Roman coins, with large bones, leaden pipes, several urns containing ashes, and other vessels, the use of which was unknown. Also in 1670, was discovered a bath here; the brick pipes which heated it, remaining entire. On the opposite bank of the river stands Eaton Bishops, so called from its manor belonging to the Bishop of Hereford. Here is another large camp, containing between 30 and 40 acres, but the works of it are single, except a little on the west side. We saw here a pleasant mansion of Mrs. Philips, mother to the late member for Hereford, whose polite attention, and agreeable information, during our stay here, merits our sincerest acknowledgments.

The day following we visited the Duke of Norfolk's fine old place at Holme, about five miles south of this city. The road is by the Wye, exceedingly pleasant, the meadows fertile, and the woody hills luxuriant round them; we passed an handsome seat of Mr. Bodenham, at Rotherwals, fronting a rich wood, and Dindermore hill. Holme Lacy is an ancient seat of the Scudamores, which they inherited about the reign of Edward III. by marriage with the heiress of Ewias, as is said by Camden and others, but more probably Lacy, to whom this estate certainly belonged and from whom it acquired its additional name. Among those indeed, who hearing of the acquisitions of the Normans in England, came afterwards over expecting to share in the general distribution, and finding England too little to satisfy their greedy appetites, obtained leave

* Of this family was the late Speaker of the House of Commons, though party virulence has called him a man of low birth.

of William Rufus, to invade Wales, was Hugh de Laci, who sallied into Wales, and won the territory of Ewias in Monmouthshire, whereupon he fixed his castle, which to this day retains the addition of his name. From a branch of this family, no doubt, whether by the name of Ewias or Lacy, was derived the title of the Scudamores to this place. Sir John Scudamore was created viscount of Sligo in Ireland, July 2d 1628, the heiress of whose descendant James, married first in 1729, Henry Duke of Beaufort, from whom she was divorced, and marrying again colonel Charles Fitzroy, (natural son of the first duke of Grafton) was mother of Francis her heir, married in 1771, to Charles, the present duke of Norfolk, to whom she brought this, and other large estates in this neighbourhood for life. The approach is through the park to the west front, which is a plain dark stone structure, with very proportionable wings. The hall is very old and magnificent, 48 by 27, and very lofty. The wainscot is painted; from the ceiling hang two ponderous gilt bronzes; the paintings are very good, particularly one of Charles I. a person holding his horse, only half visible, and a page holding up his garments; the principal figure is very beautiful, the silken tint of his coat remarkably fine; his hand rests very gracefully on his side, and the elbow seems to burst from the canvass; the forehead of the horse is very masterly. This is esteemed one of Vandyke's best performances; there are only two of this kind in the kingdom. Sir James Scudamore, father to John the first lord in armour, by the same I believe; viscount Scudamore, a great friend of Charles I.; admiral Vantrump; sir John Packington; a fine portrait of a lady; Louis XIII, and his queen, 1639, French. Small dining room on the right; over the chimney, a curious old flower piece, within some beautiful carved work, by the famous Gibbons; the shell-fish, birds, fruit, &c. are inimitably finished. "There is no instance (says Walpole) of a man before Gibbons, who gave to wood the loose and airy lightness of flowers, and chained together the various productions of the elements, with a free disorder natural to each species." On the left of the hall are two small drawing-rooms. In one I observed some beautiful needle-worked chairs, &c. also a considerable display of portraits, but we had no catalogue, nor person whereby to obtain certain information. I could frequently distinguish the pencil of Vandyke, Cornelius Jansen, and Holbein. The stair-case is very lofty, and hung with old pictures; this leads up to a large suite of unfinished rooms. The whole of this admirable place is complete in its style; built, I imagine, about the reign of King William III, by one of the Scudamores, immediate ancestors of the Duchesses; Colonel Fitzroy, her father, had the management during her minority, and did infinite injury to the place, by cutting down 15000l. worth of timber. The gardens to the south front are all in King William's style of fortifications, surrounded with yew hedges, cut in variety of forms, according to the taste of that time. Some indeed, have been suffered to out grow their original shape, and are really beautiful. As there are so few relics of these sorts of antiquities now remaining, it is pity not to have the power of such an inspection sometimes; this is certainly a very fit object for that purpose, and will, in all probability, long continue so. The Duke frequently enjoys it, with a society of a few friends; nor has he an idea of letting it undergo any transmutation. Its external beauties are most bewitching, from a situation replete with ceaseless variety; the view from the west end of the garden, or from the lawn, is sweetly picturesque, beyond expression. A small tower, with another spire church to the right, and Mr. Lechmere's old white house to the left, all placed in a lovely amphitheatre, formed by swelling hills and hanging woods, as the truest objects of landscape. This scene is again charmingly varied, as we ascend the hill into the park, opposite the south front of the house, which takes in many other agreeable objects, and more of the meandering river. Still further on, the distant

distant prospect expands nobly, while the huge oaks, those venerable sons of the forest, spread their umbrageous arms around our heads, and seem to lament their former numerous family, fell'd by the destructive hand of an unlawful master. From the summit of this delightful park we command several vast hills in Gloucestershire; black mountains in Monmouthshire, and Brecknock; those over Hereford, and Bradwardine, together with Robin Hood's Butts; also, Clay Hills in Shropshire, &c. Infinitely gratified with this excursion we returned with our good friend to dine at Hereford.

Much more is yet to be seen in these parts, which we could not conveniently compass, lying too opposite to our future route. Lord Malden's noble seat at Hampton-court, towards Leominster, is particularly worth notice. Leland says, "this place was sumptuously erected by one Sir Lenthall, knt. that thus rose by service. He was yeoman of the robes to King Henry IV. and being a gallant fellowe, either a daughter*, or neere kinswoman of the kinges fell in love with him, and in continuance was wedded unto him. Whereupon after he fell into estimation, and had given to him 1000l. landes by the yeare for maintenance of him and his wife, and their heirs, among which landes he had Ludlowe for one part. This Lenthall was victorious at the battaile of Agincourt, and tooke many prisoners there, by which prey he beganne the new building of Hampton-court, and brought from an hill a spring of water, and made a little poole within the toppe of this house. This Lenthall had a sonne by his wife; but he after a few years dyed. Then left he of to build any more at Hampton, and soone after his wife dyed. Then after he married the daughter of the Lord Grey of Codoner." Hampton-court afterwards belonged to the Cornwalls, barons of Burford; and in the reign of Henry VIII. it belonged to the Coningsby's, a family of great note in these parts, of which was sir Thomas Coningsby, who was sheriff of the county, 40th of Queen Elizabeth, and founded an hospital in Hereford; from which was descended Thomas, who was created a baron of Ireland by King William III. and afterwards a baron and earl of this realm, by the title of Lord Coningsby, of Coningsby in Lincolnshire. Margaret, the eldest of his two daughters, was also created a baroness and Viscountess of Hampton-court, from whom by his mother is descended the present possessor. This was till lately in its perfect original state in form of a castle; its situation, as we could distantly discern, and judge from its vicinity, is in a most beautiful vale on the river Lugg, surrounded with the richest woods; the gardens and pleasure grounds are delightful. His lordship has rather mutilated some of its antique appearance to enjoy modern comforts, as he frequently resides here: within are excellent portraits of the family, &c. by Holbein, Vandyke, sir Peter Lely, &c. with King Henry IV. Queen Elizabeth, &c. Another object highly worth the attention of a traveller, is the curious place of Richard Payne Knight, esq. at Downton, near Ludlow, (for which place he is member) but within the northern limits of this county. This gentleman having seen most of the best edifices, both ancient and modern, and being endowed with a natural fondness for the architecture of castles, &c. was determined to raise, from divers hints he had collected from the various styles of building, something to resemble the habitations of ancient barons, more peculiar than could possibly be found elsewhere. In this I understand he has succeeded so as to be the admiration of all visitors. No less a sum than 60,000l. has been expended for this purpose.

We left Hereford, and pursued our tour to Ross; the first hill called Aconbury, is very steep, and commands a most extensive valley surrounded with boldest scenery.

* This lady was Margaret coheir of Richard Fitzalan, fourth earl of Arundel of that family.

The black mountains so often mentioned, St. Michael's mount, and Sugarloaf, are very prominent features. In the vale on our right stands a large mansion of Sir Richard Symmons, bart. called the Meend. Beyond this road affords nothing interesting for several miles: pass through the small village, Landenabo, and a little to the left see Harewood. Sir Hungerford Hoskins's old seat, which has been long the residence of the family, and greatly improved by the present owner.

This is no doubt the spot, or near it, where in the reign of Edgar, Ethelwold, that king's minister, had a castle (said to be in Harewood-forest,) which is the scene of Mason's dramatic poem of Elfrida. The story of it is briefly this, Edgar greatly enamoured of the famed beauty of Elfrida, daughter of Orgar, earl of Devonshire, sends Ethelwold to offer her his crown in marriage. Whereupon Ethelwold falls violently in love with her himself, and marries her secretly; persuading the king upon his return, that there was nothing extraordinary in her beauty. Edgar at length being informed of the truth, sees her, falls desperately in love, and determines to make her his own; the event of which is quite perverted by the poet, for instead of that sacred attachment to Ethelwold, which the drama exhibits, the historical fact shews that her beauty was too much tinctured with vanity, not to be moved by the addresses of the king. Upon which he orders the unsuspecting husband to go to Northumberland on pretended business. But the unfortunate earl never performed his journey. He was found dead in a wood, where he was thought at first to be murdered by robbers, but the eyes of the people were soon opened, when they saw that the king, instead of making due search after the murderers, married the widow. Some say, that Edgar slew Ethelwold with his own hand at a hunting match. Malmesbury says, he took Ethelwold into a wood (Harewood-forest) upon pretence of hunting, and killed him there with his lance. The natural son of this nobleman happening to come in at this accident, and viewing the dead body of his father, the king sternly asked him, "how he liked the game?" The youth replied calmly, that whatsoever pleased the king, ought not to be displeasing to him. This courtly answer, on so moving an occasion, surprized the king, and gave him a strong affection for the young man ever after. This story leaves room to suspect, the monkish historians have passed over in silence several of Edgar's actions, when they endeavoured, by their excessive commendations, to make him pass for a saint.

Hence the road is intolerably rough, but might easily be mended by breaking their hard materials smaller. We next saw Peterstowe, a neat retirement, whose small spire and church are exceedingly picturesque. A little further we inspected the ruins of Wilton Castle, on the river Wye, opposite Ross, from which the spire and bridge are very fine objects, together with the wood-crowned hills called the Chase. Wilton Castle was the chief seat of the barony of the Greys of this place, by the marriage of Reginald Grey, Justice of Chester, with Maud, the heiress of Henry de Longchamp, Baron of Wilton, in the reign of Edward I. From hence a long train of valourous peers successively enjoyed this place down to William Lord Grey of Wilton. Though earlier than this they much frequented their seats at Blechley and Whaddon Hall in Bucks before-mentioned; and in the time of this William, the Castle of Wilton was much fallen to decay. This brave nobleman, in the reign of Queen Mary, defended Calais against the French with wonderful valour, till at length his soldiers mutinying in despair, he was obliged to yield it up, and became himself a prisoner, in which state he continued, till he redeemed himself for 24,000 crowns; a sum, which almost ruined his estate. He was afterwards general of the forces sent into Scotland. Having lived to all the great purposes of life, but self-interest, he died

1562, no less to the public sorrow of England, which he secured, than to the common joy of Scotland, which he awed. His son Arthur lord Grey, a soldier as famous as his father, endeavoured to advance his lessened estate by his valour, and first was wounded at the siege of Leith, 1560, and afterwards was sent over lord deputy of Ireland, and there finally suppressed the rebellion of Desmond. But there is another cause, why his memory will live, long after his feats of arms are forgotten. He was the early patron of Spenser, the poet, who went over to Ireland with him as his secretary, upon which he had a grant from Queen Elizabeth of 3000 acres of land in the county of Cork. His house was in Kilcolman; and here he finished his *Fairy Queen*; the river Mulla, which he has more than once introduced in his poems, ran through his grounds. The world can never be grateful enough to the man, under whose patronage so exquisite a poem was written. The gratitude of the poet will live for ever*. Lord Grey died 1593†. His son William the last lord‡ a puritan, but a very hopeful young man, was attainted as an accomplice in Sir Walter Raleigh's supposed plot, and died in prison much pitied§. At what time this family parted with Wilton Castle is not exactly known; but 'tis probable it was parted with by lord William, the grandfather, among the patrimony he was obliged to alienate for raising his ransom, since it belonged to John, first lord Chandos, who married his sister; and from him it became the seat of his second son Charles, who resided here, as well as his posterity, down to James the magnificent duke, of whom an account has been given under Cannons. Philips, in his poem, called *Cyder*, makes the following honourable mention of this family, originally natives of the county:

“ Where shall we find
Men more undaunted||? for their country's weal
More prodigal of life? In ancient days
The Roman legions, and great Cæsar found
Our fathers no mean foes, and Creffy plains
And Agincourt, deep-ting'd with blood, confess
What the Silures vigour unwithstood
Could do in rigid fight; and chiefly what
Brydges wide wasting hand, first gartered knight,¶
Puisant author of great Chandos' stem,
High Chandos, that transmits paternal worth,

* “ Most noble lord, the pillar of my life,
And patron of my muse's pupillage,
Through whose large bounty poured on me rife,
In the first season of my feeble age,
I now do live, bound yours by vassalage,” &c.

Sonnet to lord Grey prefixed to the Fairy Queen.

† Henry Fitzalan Earl of Arundel, when steward at King Edward's coronation, or constable at Queen Mary's, was the first that rid in a coach in England; this lord Grey was the first that brought a coach to Ireland. *Lloyd's State Worthies.*

‡ The title of Baron de Wilton has lately been revived in the person of sir Thomas Egerton, bart. descended from the sister and coheir of this William; but not entitled to the ancient honour, both because of the attainder, and the obedience.

§ Weldon's Court of James I. p. 30.

|| Than those of Herefordshire.

¶ This is an historical inaccuracy. Sir John Chandos, one of the first knights of the garter, was uncle to Alice the wife of Sir Thomas Brydges, ancestor of the Brydges's,

Prudence, and ancient prowess, and renown,
 T' his noble offspring*. O thrice happy peer!
 That blest with hoary vigour, view'st thyself
 Fresh blooming in thy generous son; whose lips
 Flowing with nervous eloquence exact,
 Charm the wise senate, and attention win
 In deepest councils: Ariconium pleas'd,
 Him, as her chosen worthy, first salutes;
 Him, on th' Iberian, on the Gallic shore,
 Him hardy Britons bless; his faithful hand
 Conveys new courage from afar, nor more
 The general's conduct, than his care avails."

The remaining ruins of the castle are very inconsiderable; there being nothing but a low square wall, enclosing a garden, with the appearance of a turret in one angle. This with Aconbury, Dewfall, and most of the other Chandos estates in this county, were sold some years back to Guy's hospital. In Peterstowe church, in which parish this stands, are no handsome monuments, but two or three flat stones to the memory of this family. We now crossed the bridge of six large arches, and came along the side of an high causeway to the town. This admirable convenience for passengers in time of floods, owes its origin to the celebrated man of Ross, (Mr. Kyrle) whose liberal and charitable services to this town, are monuments too durable soon to be erased. The lines of Pope most applicable to the spot we are now upon, are the following:

"Pleased Vaga echoes through her winding bounds,
 And rapid Severn hoarse applause resounds.
 Who hung with woods yon mountain's sultry brow?
 From the dry rock who bade the water flow?
 Not to the skies in useless columns tost,
 Or in proud falls magnificently lost,
 But clear and artless pouring through the plain,
 Health to the sick, and solace to the swain;
 Whose causeway parts the vale with shady rows,
 Whose seats the weary traveller repose:
 Who taught that heaven-directed spire to rise?
 'The man of Ross,' each lisping babe replies."

We now ascended this high town, and viewed the charming scenes from its churchyard; dined at the king's arms, the house in which that famous character lived and died; his portrait is still shewn here, which, though but a daub in colouring, is valued for its extreme likeness.

About two miles from hence is Bollitree, the birth-place and residence of William Merrick, author of the *Camelion*, the *Monkies*, and other lively poems in *Dodsley's* collection. The following poetical description by him of this place, never before published, was given me by a near relation of his, with many other of his manuscripts.

Near where proud Penyard's woods arise,
 Whence Cambria's hills salute our eyes,
 On a fair spot enclosed with wood,
 That long the rage of time has stood,
 Stands Bollitree. In days of yore,
 Ere Lancaster the sceptre bore,
 Well known to fame. —

* James lord C. father of the first duke. What follows is a pleasing contrast to the ill-natured character, by Pope, of the duke under the name of Timon, before-mentioned.

Old Gaunt, 'tis said had seen the place,
 And Hereford's renowned grace,
 There deign'd to spend a social hour,
 Whilst virtue charm'd him more than pow'r.
 When hapless Richard's wretched reign
 Cauf'd Briton's sons to seek the plain,
 It's master*, lov'd of Hereford,
 Join'd with him, and drew the sword,
 And whilst our Henrys bore the sway,
 At Bollitree how blest'd the day!
 When fam'd Eliza rul'd the land,
 And gallant Essex held command,
 A branch† from this old spot deriv'd,
 In Spain right hardy deeds atchiev'd;
 There Cales (unhappy) felt a blow,
 That laid her lofty turrets low.
 And when by too severe a fate,
 Brave Essex felt the ax's weight,
 Firm to his much lov'd lord he stood,
 And seal'd his friendship with his blood.
 But late from hence, high honour bore,
 Ev'n to remotest India's shore,
 In evil hour a daring swain‡;
 In beauty's bloom he prest the plain;
 Ah! hapless youth of soul sincere,
 Receive the heart-bestowing tear;
 Since fate thy vital thread has shorn,
 Eternal laurels grace thy urn!
 Sacred to you, deserving dead,
 This ancient fabrick rears its head.
 Arches with ivy overgrown,
 And walls of moss-bemantled stone,
 Again restor'd in awful state,
 Your honour'd memory await.
 Accept the humble tribute paid,
 And peaceful sleep each hallow'd shade.

Scenery of such inimitable beauty as that viewed down the river Wye, which is unquestionably unique, necessarily requires a minute detail and analization of its constituent parts; the steepness of its banks; its mazy course; the ground, woods, and rocks, and every other native and artificial ornament. These are most accurately and admirably defined by the celebrated comparer of natural and artificial landscape, Mr. Gilpin, in his excursion down this river in 1770§, for which purpose he has employed his second section; and I think with much greater success than the subsequent description. This indeed, as he previously observes, might be attributed to his having seen them under the circumstances of a continued rain. Leaving my reader therefore to furnish himself with the necessary outlines from that able delineator, I shall proceed to give the result of these combinations under the auspicious beams we now viewed them. For this purpose we procured a boat for a guinea and a half, to take us to Monmouth,

* Thomas Meyricke.

† Sir Gwillim Merrick, knighted at Cales, for his valour.

‡ Lieutenant Samuel Hopkins, of Col. Draper's regiment, slain at the siege of Fort St. George, (Nephew to the late William Merrick, of Bollitree.)

§ This little work is become so scarce, that I was not able previously to procure a copy; the hints and occasional descriptions of such a companion were highly desirable, and would have been of infinite assistance, but I was forced to be content in an after comparison.

in which we embarked about three o'clock, and leaving Wilton castle* on our right, passed the noble bridge westward in continual serpentine nearly four miles, without any very striking feature to attract our notice. We were amused with some fishermen in their curious little boats, angling for trout and grealing; these delicate vehicles are made of wicker, or basket work, and covered on the outside with prepared canvass, which they paddle down the stream, and carry on their backs home again, like turtles in their shells. Mr. Gilpin mentions this curious vehicle, called a coricle, probably from the ancient boat which was formed of leather, and gives the following curious story of an adventurous fellow, "who for a wager, once navigated a coricle as far as Lundy isle, at the mouth of the British channel. A full fortnight or more he spent in this dangerous voyage; and it was happy for him that it was a fortnight of serene weather. Many a current and many an eddy; many a flowing tide, and many an ebbing one, afforded him occasion to exert all his skill and dexterity. Sometimes his little bark was carried leeward, and sometimes as far windward; but still he recovered his course, persevered in his undertaking; and at length happily achieved it. When he returned to the New-Weir, report says, the account of his expedition was received like a voyage round the world." We now came opposite Mr. Gilpin's second landscape, Goodrich castle, a most romantic relick of moss-grown towers, which more than answered every idea of his pencil, or description; the vast hill, called copperwood apparently on the right, though really far beyond, adds greatly to the boldness of this prospect. William Earl Marshall had a grant of this castle 5th of King John. In the reign of Edward III. this was the chief seat of Gilbert lord Talbot, great grandfather of John, the first earl of Shrewsbury, to whom, and his posterity, it continued the principal residence, till Gilbert, 7th Earl, left three daughters his coheirs, of whom Elizabeth carried this castle to her husband, Henry Grey, earl of Kent, who died S. P. 1639, yet this place seems to have gone to his collateral relations, earls of Kent, down to the late duke. Down the next reach on our left, a beautiful livery of green clothed the surrounding steeps; this is the general complexion of the adjacent country, for every ten or twelve years, the woods are cropped quite close to the ground, principally to supply the forges and furnaces with charcoal, &c. and as they sprout again this delightful verdure appears scarce distinguishable, at some distance, from the most luxuriant crops. As in other spots their vigour is increased, or come to full growth, different tints and shades are seen, which constitute the wonderful variety so peculiar to these scenes. The hill beyond, on our right, is covered with lime kilns; we saw a small hut by the water side carelessly heaped together, which, according to established custom, the indigent natives raise in the night; this, if they can accomplish it so as to cover in, and boil a pot within the space of twelve hours unmolested, becomes their own, and they are allowed to inclose a sufficient quantity of land round it, and to rebuild a more suitable cottage; thus in a few years by this laudable custom and indulgence, the whole face of the country wears a general aspect of cultivation, and the most barren spots become adorned with woods gardens and orchards. This in miniature resembles the great world at large in its original state of nature, with this restriction, that their king is already established; they may wage wars and have trivial hostilities about infringements of property, and other jealousies or animosities, but no violent danger can ensue; the lord of the manor has the supreme power, to keep them in awe, and rectify these commotions in their state. We next passed some iron works on our left; called

* Mr. Gilpin, by a deception in this winding river, has described this ruin as on the opposite bank.

Bishop's-wood-furnace, belonging to a company at Ross and Bristol; the scene here greatly improves, and the stream flows through a winding avenue of richer cloathing. In the reach below this, is Ledbroke colliery, a very plentiful mine and of good quality; which supplies Ross, and various places at 13s. per ton. After so much grandeur and tranquillity, this busy contrast upon the banks of the wharf produced a new and lively effect. A little lower on the right, stands Courtfield, an ancient pile, with an artificial ruin above, belonging to Mr. Vaughan. A few fine deer were bounding on the ridgey banks; the parish church in miniature, just below, is truly picturesque; it is called Welch Bicknor to distinguish it from another village of the same name about two miles below, on the opposite side of the river, in Gloucestershire, which now only divides the two counties, but was formerly the boundary between the Welch and English; according to this verse of Necham:

"Inde vagos Vaga Cambrenses, hinc respicit Anglos."

"Hence Wye the English views, and thence the Welch."

In this church is a chalice of great antiquity, being from its date made in 1176, and although finished in a very rough manner, it has some resemblance to those used in the present age. It is supposed that it was made by some of those Arabians living in the Norman territories near the borders of Spain, who embraced the Christian religion, and was by them brought to Britany or Normandy, and from thence to England. At English Bicknor, a triangular bushy mount hangs like a noble rampart to the water at the next reach. The verdant rocks now spread their tufted heads in variegated order, and at the half way point, the abrupt cliffs, called Coldwell, opened an amphitheatre of romantic beauties, beyond the power of words or canvass to express; the creeping ever-greens upon the protuberances of each mouldering rock, and the profusion of other hanging foliage, present a variety of vivid tints inimitably soft and fine. No tapestry of art, not even of the rich Gobelins* can possibly excel this admirable production of the loom of nature; we only wanted sun to paint the colours stronger. The massy heaps beneath thrown from their native rocks by the devastation of time, are very curious, and some of them little inferior to the famous Bowdar-stone in Borrowdale; one in particular, infinitely more deserves the similitude "of a ship lying on its keel," immersed too in the bosom of these lucid streams. We now came to the second ferry called Hudson's-rope, at Whitechurch, which, to give an idea of the beauteous course of this river, is seven miles distant from the upper one, at Goodriche, by water, and only one by land. The parish church here is another picturesque object on the verge of the water, so near as sometimes to be surrounded by the flood; the vast hills beyond are remarkably bold, and form a sublime termination to this reach. The thinly scattered cots, as we approached the new Weir, are richly recluse; no gripe of poverty, no perplexing cares seem to disturb these quiet haunts; a more primæval scene cannot well be conceived to exist. Passing through a lock we saw the busy Cyclops working on the opposite shore, and as the evening was far advanced and rather overcast, this scene became more awful and sublime.

The moon scarce seated on her silver car,
The veil of night hung heavy o'er the world.
And o'er the solemn scene such stillness reign'd,
As 'twere a pause of nature: on the banks

* A house in Paris, in the suburb of St. Marceau, so called from Giles Gobelin, an excellent dyer, who found out the secret of dying scarlet, in the reign of Francis I. This is the place where they make the finest tapestry in Europe.

No murmuring billow breaks, but all is hush'd ;
 Save ever and anon the thund'ring stroke
 That beats the fiery mass. While upwards rise
 The smoaky volumes sparkling thro' the air.
 But hark ! the full assembled owls begin
 To shriek their orgies mid't the rocks and woods.
 Pensive I sit and hear the frightful din
 Responsive echoing thro' the fallen skies,
 'Till, lull'd by music of the dashing oar,
 My untun'd soul again finds sweet repose.*

We now landed at the first convenient place, and walked on the turnpike road near two miles to Monmouth where we slept, and in the morning took a cursory view of this ancient capital, of this formerly a Welch, but now an English, county. It is situated at the conflux of the Wye and Munnow, whence it derives its name, it displays many marks of antiquity, and has been much more flourishing than at present. The general white complexion of the houses gives it a neat and animated look ; but the only buildings worth notice are the church and town-hall, both very handsome, and the latter may vie with most places of much greater consequence. The Britains called it Mynwy ; on the north side, where it is not guarded by the river, it was originally encompassed with a strong wall and foss. In the midst of the town are the ruins of the castle, which flourished at the conquest. At that time William the son of Baderon had the custody of those four carucates of land, within the castle, which were the king's demesne. Withenock, his son, surnamed de Monmouth, built a church within the castle, and gave it to the monks of St. Florence, at Salmure in France. His son Baderon, in the reign of Henry II. granted to the monks at Monmouth, in exchange for Hodonock, three forges, situate upon the river Wye, free from any toll, passage, forestage, or any other custom for the iron made therein. By this it appears, how anciently the iron works before described were carried on in these parts. His grandson John, baron of Monmouth, who had the custody of the castle of Striguil, 15th of Henry III. gave about that time to the monks of St. Florence at Salmure, in pure alms, the hospital of St. John at Monmouth. This nobleman having no issue male, in consideration of certain lands, which Prince Edward granted him for his life, gave to the said prince, and his heirs for ever, his castle and honor of Monmouth, and all other his lands and tenements, which grant was confirmed by the king 13th September, 40th Henry III. and in the 41st of that king he died. From this time it continued in the crown, and enjoyed many privileges ; but derived its greatest glory from giving birth to Henry V. (from hence, surnamed of Monmouth) the great conqueror of France, and second ornament of the Lancastrian family, who, by direct force of arms, subdued that kingdom, and reduced Charles VI. to the greatest extremity. This was also the birth-place of the famous historian Geoffrey of Monmouth, mentioned before as buried at Abingdon.

In order to vary these scenes as much as possible, we dismissed our boat at Monmouth, and went by land to Tintern-abbey ; as the upper part of the river affords most variety in a boat, this plan was undoubtedly the best. As we proceeded on the road to Chepstow, and passed Troy-house, a fine old seat of the duke of Beaufort, now only inhabited by a steward and farmer, the autumnal glow of nature, attendant on nocturnal showers, gave us the highest idea of the town's charming situation and scenery,

* Parody on part of the first Scene, Act third, of the Grecian Daughter.

protected on all sides by hills of the sweetest verdure, even to their utmost summits, the streams of Vaga murmuring at their feet.*

As we ascended the hill before us, each progressive step afforded an infinite variety of waving mountains, vallies and woods, interspersed with white cots, seats, &c. &c. and backed by the majestic heads of Sugar-loaf, and Brecknockshire black mountains. Having gained this lofty summit, we deviated a little to the right of the road, to observe the distant ruins of Ragland castle, once a most powerful and glorious place. Thomas ap Gwillem ap Jenkin, (ancestor of the Herberts) obtained it by marrying Maud, daughter and heir of Sir John Morley, knt. lord of this castle and other large possessions, in the time of Richard II. from hence it came to the earls of Pembroke, and from them to the earls of Worcester, in the same manner as Tintern and Chepstow. William, first marquis of Worcester, maintained this castle with a garrison of 800 men from 1642, to August 19th, 1646, without receiving any contribution from the country, and then yielded it to Sir Thomas Fairfax upon very honourable terms. This was among the last places in England that held out against the rebels. Then it was that (according to Gilpin's expression) "Cromwell laid his iron hand upon it, and shattered it into ruins; to which it owes its present picturesque form." All the timber in these parks that lay near the house, was cut down and sold, which (though there was no coppice wood) amounted by the account of the committee themselves to 37,000 cords of wood. The lead of the castle was sold for 6,000l. and a great part of the timber to the citizens of Bristol, to rebuild the houses on the bridge there, that had been lately burnt. The loss to the family, during the troubles, was computed at 100,000l. an estate to the value of 20,000l. *per annum* being sequestered, besides what they sold in those necessitous times.†

The aspect from hence became dreary and unpleasant, and the fervency of the noon-tide sun was now almost as intense as Midsummer, without a shade to guard us from its powers. We now left the great road at the village of Turlington, and passed through hollow and uncouth tracks, seldom attempted by any carriages but those of the natives; after a few specimens of pleasing recluse scenery, we enter a profound dell for several miles; a gurgling brook winding through the umbrageous cavity which supplies a number of large iron works above the village of Abbey-Tintern: Mr. Tanner is the ostensible manager; the duke of Beaufort the great proprietor. We inspected the principal furnace, and saw the ore, which is mostly brought from that vast source, at Furness in Lancashire, dissolved by the blast of immense bellows, worked upon the modern construction of cylinder pumps. They have a method of separating the best qualities from the dross, by a water wheel and hammers, from which they collect considerable quantities of pure metal, and the powder sells to the glass-houses for their use. Lower down are various forges, for the purpose of striking this mutilated ore, into every requisite size and form of the broadest bars to the finest wires.

Iron, the most useful, and through the wise distribution of Providence, the most common of all metals, is plentifully found in all parts of the British dominions. It is found in Cornwall, Cumberland, Derbyshire, Devon, Durham, Gloucestershire,

* Mr. Gray's observation on this sweet place is thus found in a letter, dated May 24th, 1771, giving an account of his preceding summer's tour, in which the river Wye was the principal feature. "Monmouth, (says he) which is a town I never heard mentioned, lies on the same river, in a vale, that is the delight of my eyes, and the very seat of pleasure."

† From the time this castle was rendered uninhabitable, the family have fixed their chief residence at Badminton, in Gloucestershire.

Hants, Kent, Lancashire, Monmouthshire, Shropshire, Somersetshire, Staffordshire, Suffex, Warwickshire, Wiltshire, Yorkshire, and in a great many other parts of North-Britain, Ireland, and in North America. The Romans probably were the first who wrought our mines, their medals having been found amongst the heaps of flags and cinders. The ore hath various appearances; some is called brush ore, as being composed of threads growing on a red kind of earth, or hanging from the tops of caves, or old works, some in stones of a reddish, blue, or grey colour, sometimes in a sort of stiff unctuous clay, and sometimes in a black sand.* The veins or loads, like those of tin, are of very different dimensions, and their contents of very different natures, which rather than their size determine its value. Some ore is roasted before it can be smelted. This last operation is performed in a large open furnace, the fuel and ore being mixed, and the fire kept to the greatest heat by immense bellows, moved by a large water wheel. It is from this and other improvements, that our mines yield much more than formerly; when they scarce made in their foot-blasts or bloomeries, 100 weight in a day, leaving as much or more metal in their flags; whereas they now make several tons of iron in the same space, and leave a mere cinder. When the metal is melted, it is let out of the receivers into a bed of sand, which hath one large, and several small divisions, in which it cools. The iron in the large division is called a sow, and in the smaller, pigs. Pig iron, the metal thus fit for some uses, such as pots, kettles, bombs, and other coarse works, is not malleable. In order to give it that necessary quality, it is carried to the forges, and there heated and hammered in various directions, till the heterogeneous matter, or vitrious impurities being expelled, it is thoroughly incorporated and welded together. From this forge, which is called the finery, it is taken to another called the chafrey, where it is also heated and hammered into large bars. After this it is divided at the flitting mills, and then is stiled bar iron. In this state it is complete as a commodity, and fit for sale; the uses of which are too many, and too well known to admit or require an explanation.† There are but few sorts of iron which, though useful in other respects, are fit for being converted into steel. The red iron ore from Furness in Lancashire, produces an iron, which is as tough as Spanish iron, it makes very fine wires; but when converted into bars, it is not esteemed so good as that which is got in the forest of Dean and other places. The melting or casting of steel was introduced at Sheffield, about 40 or 50 years ago, by one Waller from London, and was afterwards much practised by one Huntsman, from whom steel so prepared, acquired the name of "Huntsman's cast steel." It was at first sold for 14d. but may now be had for 10d. a pound; it costs 3d. a pound in being melted, and for drawing ingots of it into bars of the size of razors, they pay only 6d. a 100. Before this art was introduced at Sheffield, all the cast steel used in the kingdom was brought from Germany.‡ Steel is made from iron by cementation, which by the skill and industry of the artificers is raised to a very high value in all the finer manufactures, particularly at Woodstock, as we there described. The reason why we have so much iron imported, is because the inhabitants of those countries abounding in wood, can make it cheaper. For iron being smelted in an open fire with charcoal, the oil of which is supposed to make it tough, few parts of this kingdom can afford the expence. In Colebroke dale, in Shropshire, pit coal has been used with success, which if generally introduced with the same success, would be very advantageous to the nation.

* Plot's Natural History of Staffordshire, p. 150.—Woodward's History of Fossils, vol. 1. p. 223, &c.
—Hill's History of Fossils, p. 629, and Borlase's Natural History of Cornwall, p. 195, as cited in Campbell's Survey.

† Watson's Chemistry.

We now approached the venerable object of our deviation, Tintern Abbey, hid in a most sequestered spot by the river Wye. Before these populous manufactures were here thought of, how passing excellent must this situation have been for monastic life and discipline. However these iron works have been very anciently in use in different parts of the banks of the Wye, as has appeared under Monmouth. The ruins of Furness must yield to Tintern, both in point of picturesque beauty, preservation, and curiosity; we might gaze with fresh delight and admiration for hours on this perfect skeleton of Gothic architecture. The internal dimensions from east to west are 77 yards, from north to south 53. The east, west, north, and south windows, and centre arches, are of an equal height 67 feet, the west window itself is 60. The following is the account given of its origin. This abbey, dedicated to God and the Virgin Mary, was founded about the year 1131, by Walter Fitz-Richard de Clare, lord of Carewen and Monmouthshire. Richard de Clare, surnamed Strongbow (nephew to the founder) gave divers lands and privileges to the abbot and monks hereof, who were of the Cistercian order, obliging them to pray for their souls and those of his and his wife's ancestors. Roger de Bigot, earl of Norfolk, added to these benefactions. It has been famous for the tombs and monuments of several great persons, principally of the aforesaid Walter de Clare; Gilbert, earl of Pembroke, brother to the founder; Walter, earl of Pembroke, and marshal of England, and his brother Anselm, last earl of that family; William Herbert, earl of Pembroke, who being in the disputes between the houses of York and Lancaster, was taken prisoner in Banbury fight, and being beheaded, lies buried here. Besides the effigy of Gilbert de Clare, which is in good preservation, and some others, the key stones of many arches are seen in a perfect state of fine sculpture. The duke of Beaufort takes great delight in having the whole of this magnificent relick preserved, which before was in a state of mouldering obscurity. At its suppression the revenues were rated at 192l. 1s. 4d. *per annum*. The following lines from Mason's English Garden, book first, are a fine poetic picture, applicable to the scenes we have been describing. "In thy fair domain," says the author, addressing the genius of his country,

"Many a glade is found,
The haunt of wood-gods only; where if art
Ere dar'd to tread, 'twas with unsandal'd foot,
Printless, as if the place were holy ground.
And there are scenes, where, tho' she whilom trod,
Led by the worst of guides, fell tyranny,
And ruthless superstition, we now trace
Her footsteps with delight; and pleas'd revere
What once we should have hated. But to time,
Not her, the praise is due; his gradual touch
Has moulder'd into beauty many a tow'r,
Which, when it frown'd with all its battlements,
Was only terrible; and many a fane
Monastic, which, when deck'd with all its spires,
Serv'd but to feed some pamper'd Abbot's pride,
And awe the unletter'd vulgar. Generous youth
Whoe'er thou art, that listen'st to my lay,
And feel'st thy soul assent to what I sing,
Happy art thou, if thou canst call thine own,
Such scenes as these, where nature, and where time
Have work'd congenial; where a scattered host
Of antique oaks darken thy side long hills;
While rushing thro' their branches, rifted cliffs
Dart their white heads, and glitter thro' the gloom;
More happy still, if one superior rock
Bear on its brow the shiver'd fragment huge

Of

Of some old Norman fortrefs; happier far,
 Ah, then moſt happy, if thy vale below,
 Waſh, with the cryſtal coolneſs of its rills,
 Some mould'ring abbey's ivy-veſted walls."

After a difficult acceſs, through a narrow rough lane, to the ſummit of the hill which leads to Chepſtow, the contraſt was more wonderful; from the narrow confines of the wildeſt dell, and the ſecluded haunts of monaſtic ſolitude, to the vaſt expanſe that here burſts upon our view; towns, villages, ſeats and woody lawns, with the noble Severn rolling to the ocean, and thoſe iſlands called the Holmes, are the objects of this ſublime ſcenery.

Between this and Chepſtow ſtands Persfield, famous for the much admired walks of the ingenious Mr. Morris, which we now viſited. This place originally belonged to the Rous's, and was bought by Mr. Morris, and beautified moſt conſonant to the natural endowments of rock and water. He enjoyed it till within theſe three years, moſt hoſpitably inviting all company to partake of its inimitable delights. The grounds are now not in ſuch perfection, nor ſo extenſive; the whole length of them is about five miles, but ſince the preſent purchaſer, Mr. Smith, has had the place, one half are grown wild and not at preſent diſplayed. He has however begun to open them again, and is greatly altering the whole; whether his new models will be more valued than the originals, time and taſte muſt determine; many of the beautiful ſerpentines, I fear, from what we now obſerved, will be thrown into ſtrait lines. The whole was an advantageous purchaſe for 26,500l. and this gentleman intends ſoon to erect a new and excellent manſion.

The firſt view we had after we entered this ſcenery of enchantment, was a pleaſing ſight of Chepſtow caſtle, cliffs, &c. Alſo Landcaught cliffs and the broad Severn beyond. The next opening, we beheld a wonderful dip of 500 feet perpendicular into the Wye, whoſe waters were not ſo agreeable and lucid as above, where the briny waves of ocean had not adulterated them. We next came to a ſweet point, called the Pleaſant View, truly deſcriptive of its name. Next from a bench, land-caught woods and rocks were moſt majestic and fine, the river winding nobly underneath; oppoſite the cave are bow railings with a ſeat, which if we compare the works of nature with thoſe of art, may be called a front box of one of the compleateſt theatres in the univerſe; the whole appears from hence a perfect circular theatre, marked out by the ſurrounding wood-fringed cliffs. Here wants no painted canvafs to expreſs its ſcenery, nature's ſweet landscape is quite enough, and inſtead of an artificial ſky depicted over our heads, the blue vault of heaven hangs ſublime and lovely. Returning from this we aſcended on a path above the cave which leads to a ſimilar box to the one deſcribed, that is called the Lovers Leap. Having taken a final view of the ſcenery from this tremendous precipice, we were conducted to the corner of an adjacent field, where ſtands the Temple, commanding a moſt glorious proſpect in an oppoſite direction; the conflux of Wye and Severn, the Briſtol channel opening into the main ſea, the ſmoke of that great city on the oppoſite ſhores, interſperſed with ſnow-white houſes, &c. while the reflexion of the ſetting ſun gilded their windows, that ſhone like real fires; theſe together with other diſtant proſpects of ſtupendous hills on the Welch coaſt, the abrupt rocks, immense woods, and all the ſofter beauties of improvement, conſpire to render Persfield a ſcene that fills the breaſt with delight and admiration above all others.

Chepſtow is a Saxon name, and ſignifies a market or place of trading, in Britiſh it is called Kaſwent, or Caſtelh-Gwent. It is a place of no great antiquity, and many affirm that it had its origin not many ages paſt, from the ancient city Venta, which flouriſhed about

about four miles from hence in the time of Antoninus, who calls it Venta Silurum. Which name (says Camden) neither arms, nor time has been able to consume; for at this day it is called Kaerwent, or the city Venta. But the city itself is so much destroyed, that it only appears to have once been, from the ruinous walls, chequered pavements, and Roman coins.

About two miles below is the famous passage over the Severn, at Beachley to Aust, on the opposite shore. Aust was formerly called Aust-Clive, from its situation upon an high craggy cliff. At this place happened once as strong an instance of wisdom triumphing over folly, as the annals of history can produce. Walter Mapes who wrote 500 years before Camden, thus describes it; "Edward the elder, lying at Aust-Clive, and Leolin Prince of Wales at Bathesley, or Beachley, when the latter would neither come down to a conference, nor cross the Severn, Edward passed over to Leolin; who seeing the king, and knowing who he was, threw his royal robes upon the ground (which he had prepared to sit in judgment with) and leaped into the water breast high, and embracing the boat said, "Most wise king, your humility has conquered my pride, and your wisdom triumphed over my folly; mount upon that neck which I have foolishly exalted against you, so shall you enter into that country, which your goodness hath at this day made your own," and so taking him upon his shoulders, he made him sit upon his robes, and joining hands did homage to him." Chepstow is a neat little port, for most of the places on this river, where their commerce seems to centre; the tide is very high and impetuous, rising, I suppose, greatly beyond any other in the kingdom, commonly about 40 feet at the bridge, which though built of timber, looks noble, being 70 feet from the surface of the water; in January 1738, we are told the water rose considerably above this height, which did very great damages to this and the neighbouring country. Half the bridge is in Gloucestershire, so that it is supported at the expense of both counties. The town is situated on a sweet declivity facing the wide expanse of Severn. We retired to rest, the room was backward, and the window unguarded by a curtain looked that way.

At earliest twilight of the morn I woke,
And from my pillow saw the "God of day
Stand tiptoe on the eastern mountain tops,"
While in the air dim mists and vapours hung,
Cloathing the distant hills and winding vales.
Upon the gentle radiance of his face
My ravished eyes with ease and pleasure dwelt.
But soon his cheeks display'd a brighter glow:
His kindling beams by gradual ascent
Gain'd double vigour. Now the airy troops
Perceiv'd the glitt'ring rays, like pointed spears
Darting from heav'n to earth, and instant fled.
No longer could one view, with eye direct,
The dazzling glories of his mighty sphere.
The radiant day seem'd conscious of its God;
All nature smil'd; the rosy tribe of fruits,
Bending their parent trees to kiss the ground,
Imbib'd the genial warmth; pleas'd Vaga pour'd
His sea-green streams deep murmuring beneath
The hanging bowers and glittering rocks; while wide
The rougher Severn stretch'd his arm bestrew'd
With shining sails, to the capacious ocean.
Thus lost in admiration's magic charms,
I gladly caught that fleeting precious time,
"The cool, the fragrant, and the peaceful hour,
To meditation due and sacred song,"

Which

Which others sacrifice in fond embrace
Of downy slumbers, soporific death,
And paid my tribute due to that great Source,
Who thus illum'd the world, and, the past eve,
Had grac'd with all the splendor of his beams,
The full luxuriance of fair Persfield's scene,
The curious traveller's wonder and delight ;

After breakfast we visited the ruins of this magnificent castle, boldly placed upon a huge rock washed by the Wye; the whole looks of lasting solidity and is made beautifully picturesque by the numberless ever-greens, &c. that hang about its walls. It was rebuilt about 580 years since by Gilbert Earl of Pembroke. This Gilbert, surnamed Strongbow, second son of Gilbert de Clare, having solicited Henry I. to bestow on him lands in Wales, had committed to him the van of the army, when that king threatened to destroy all North Wales and Powisland, and possessing the whole dominion of Striguil* (now Chepstow) was made earl of Pembroke by Stephen, 1138. His son earl Richard left a daughter, his heiress, who carried these estates, with the earldom, to William Marshall, whose five sons enjoyed this honor successively, and all died without issue.† Of the two last, the former died at Gooderich Castle 1246; the latter at Striguil Castle, soon after. The sister and coheir married Hugh Bigod, earl of Norfolk.

Sir William Herbert, knight, a faithful adherent of Edward IV. having reduced divers castles, forts and towns in Wales, of Henry duke of Exeter, Jasper earl of Pembroke, and James earl of Wiltshire, to obedience, had a grant of their estates, amongst which was much that belonged to the ancient earls of Pembroke, in consequence of which he was created earl by that title.‡ He died possessed of the castle of Chepstow and other large possessions hereabout. All these, with the barony of Herbert, of Chepstow, Ragland, and Gower, the daughter and heir of his son, carried to Charles Somerset, a (natural son of Henry Beaufort, third duke of Somerset) created afterwards earl of Worcester, from whom they have descended to the present duke. But this has been many years under a lease of lives, and the elderly person who shews it is the last; she was born here where she still resides in comfortable apartments, and makes a good subsistence by the fruits of the garden, peaches, &c. which are plentiful on these warm walls when other places fail. In one of the towers we saw the room where Harry Martin, one of the twelve judges who sat to condemn Charles I. was afterwards confined for 27 years, and then died there. From the leads above, we had an extensive and fine view. In another place we saw the traces of a large chapel.

We now took the Gloucester road, over that lofty bridge aforesaid, whose planks, which our horses hoofs resounded, are contrived to escape the violence of floods by floating in a limited space; but this rarely happens at so immense an height as 70 feet. From the hill beyond, we command a delightful view of the town and castle. Continuing through several small villages, the wide Severn rolling on our right, we came to Lydney park, a good old seat of one of the Bathurst family, situate on the edge of the forest of Dean.

Though this extensive tract of Gloucestershire lies too much out of our course to attempt an explicit account, yet we will not entirely pass it by unnoticed. This forest

* The ruins of Striguil Castle are now remaining a few miles from Chepstow.

† All buried at Tintern, as before-mentioned.

‡ See an account of his death at Tintern. The present earls of Pembroke are descended from his natural son.

either obtained its name from Dean a market town, lowly situated within its limits, (which word is of Saxon origin, signifying a dale or woody valley, whence probably comes the word den in English,) or else from Arden, by rejecting the first syllable, which the Gauls and Britans formerly used for a wood. It was formerly so thick with trees, and so dark and terrible in its shades and by-ways, that it rendered the inhabitants barbarous, and emboldened them to commit many outrages. The soil is various, but mostly favourable to the growth of the oak, which was once so considerable, that it is said to have been part of the instructions of the Spanish Armada to destroy it, but of late years the numerous iron furnaces hereabouts have destroyed it greatly. The whole forest of more than 23,520 acres, which is extraparochial, is divided into six walks, or parts, known by their respective lodges; (viz.) King's Lodge, York Lodge, Worcester Lodge, Danby Lodge, Herbert Lodge, and Latimer Lodge. St. Briavels Castle, which was once very strong and large but is now in ruins, gives name to one of the hundreds, and serves chiefly as a prison for offenders against the laws of the forest. The privileges are very extensive; the free miners claim a right of digging iron ore, and coal; also to cut timber necessary to carry on their works. A gold mine was discovered in the year 1700, at a village called Taynton, on the northern borders of the forest, of which a lease was granted to some refiners, who extracted some gold from the ore, but did not continue the work, the quantity of gold being so small as not to answer the expence of separation.

A little beyond we passed the village of Lydney, and another iron furnace belonging to the same person as those at Tintern. A long spout supported by pillars across the road, conveys water from the opposite hill to move the great wheel of these works. The next ascent on this road commands a most delightful view over this handsome spire, down the liquid expanse of Severn many miles. From hence the roads became steep and rough to a great degree; nothing but some pleasant prospects towards the water could make them bearable. Herefordshire is in bad repute, and not without reason, for its roads, but compared with this, they are really good. We arrived at Newnham to dinner, an ancient small town pleasingly situated near the river; our inn, the Bear, stands close to the passage to Newport, and all the great roads to Bath, Bristol, &c. From hence we enjoyed a pleasing view of the opposite hills, Bird-lip, Robin Hood, and those about Ruxmore, in the cloathing country.

In the evening, which was very fine, we pursued our course through Westbury, so large a parish in Camden's time, as to be reputed above 20 miles in compass; here we saw a fine stone mansion, with formal old gardens, and pieces of water, belonging to Mr. Colchester, heir of Sir Duncombe Colchester, who married the daughter of Sir John Maynard, knight, owner of Gunnersbury. The road being now level and excellent, we arrived at Gloucester without much further observation. This city was built by the Romans, and made a station to curb the Silures, the bravest and most powerful of all the Britons. It derives its name from *Caer Glow*, which signifies a fair city, a name certainly not now improper, as its four principal streets meeting in the centre are both spacious and well built. Its situation is in one of the richest vales known, a continuation of the noble Evesham.

William of Malmesbury thus describes it in his book *De Pontificibus*. "The vale of Gloucester is so called from its chief city; the soil yields plenty of corn and fruit (in some places, by the natural richness of the ground in others, by the diligence of the country-man;) enough to excite the idlest person to take pains when it repays his labour with the increase of an hundred-fold. Here you may behold high-ways and public roads full of fruit trees, not planted, but growing naturally. The earth bears fruit

of its own accord, much exceeding others both in taste and beauty, many sorts of which continue fresh the year round, and serve the owner till he is supplied by a new increase. No county in England has so many or so good vineyards as this; either for fertility, or the sweetness of the grape. The vine has in it no unpleasant tartness or eagerness; and is little inferior to the French in sweetness. The villages are very thick, the churches handsome, and the towns populous and many." In a similar strain he continues his praise of the noble river the Severn, "than which there is not any in the land that has a broader channel, swifter stream, or greater plenty of fish," &c. These vineyards have nothing left but the places named for them; viz. one on a hill by Overbridge near Gloucester, and another near Tewkesbury. Ceaulin, king of the West Saxons, first took this city by force of arms from the Britons in 570; but the Mercians afterwards wrested it out of his hands, under whom it flourished a long time in great repute. This city was once strongly secured with walls, and on the south part William the Conqueror erected a castle of square stone; and sixteen houses were demolished, as domesday book mentions, to make room for this edifice, which is now totally destroyed. It was made a free borough by king John, who granted it a charter of incorporation, greatly enlarged its jurisdiction, and bestowed many other privileges, which it still enjoys. But in this reign it suffered by the barons' wars; the famous Mountfort earl of Leicester having besieged it, took possession of it in four days; but Prince Edward advancing with a strong army, drove the earl back again; and would have punished the burghers, but was dissuaded through the intercession of the bishop of Worcester, who gave security for their paying a fine of 1000 marks. During the civil wars in the reign of Charles I. the gentlemen here continued loyal, but the farmers, tradesmen, and others of a meaner sort were generally against him, and maintained this place under the command of colonel Massey, whose services and defensive conduct were those of a gallant officer. There are several excellent ancient churches and public buildings well endowed, but the most worth notice is the cathedral, dedicated to St. Peter, which is esteemed one of the best pieces of architecture in England; it stands upon the site of the ancient monastery, founded by Osric, governor of Gloucestershire, upon ground granted by King Ethelred, 681. About 821, Bernulph, King of Mercia, rebuilt it in another form, and substituted an order of Secular Preachers, who married, and continued 200 years; Canute, for ill-living, at the instigation of Wolstan, bishop of Worcester, removed these and established Benedictine monks, 1022. It was in the next age destroyed by the Danes, but was about 1060 entirely rebuilt by Aldred bishop of Worcester, afterwards archbishop of York, who crowned William the Conqueror. It was in a very low condition, when Serlo, chaplain to King William, was made abbot, having but two or three monks, and eight scholars. He was so zealous to raise and improve it that about 1100, he had it new finished, and obtained thirteen manors for its use, besides the lands mortgaged to the archbishop of York. In 1102, it was with the city destroyed by fire, and twice again it suffered the like calamity; 1214, 1223. But these damages were soon repaired by the devout munificence of that age, which occasioned the act of mortmain to be passed 1279, 7th Edward I.* The present magnificent structure was begun by John Thokey, seventeenth abbot, about 1318. Abbot Horton built the north aisle in 1351. Abbot Trocester built the large cloister about 1381. Abbot Seabrook began the stately tower, 1450, and appointed Robert Tully, a monk of this church to finish it. Richard Hanley began the lady's chapel, 1457. The whole length from east to west is 420, from north to south 144 feet. The

* The revenues at the dissolution amounted, according to Dugdale, to 1946l. 5s. 9d. per annum.

Lady's chapel is 90 by 27 and 66. The tower from the bottom to the top is 280 feet; from the battlements 198. The whole seems to please the eye with most agreeable proportions, and the tower and pinnacles are wrought so rich and light, that it is impossible to behold them without the greatest admiration. The pillars and arches in the body are of that ponderous Saxon construction, which is quite oppressive at first sight; but as you approach the screens, the beautiful perspective of the choir, with a kind of transparent view of the Lady's chapel behind the altar, affords a charming relief. The cloisters which contain four equal aisles, 147 by 13 and 16, are most perfect Gothic beauties. There is a whispering gallery from one side of the choir to the other, built in an octagonal form of 84 feet. The whisper is heard pretty distinct from one side to the other, but it hardly deserves notice after that noble one in St. Paul's. Near this we saw a curious old painting, of the day of judgment, supposed to have been an altar piece. The principal monuments are; in the choir, bishop Aldred, the great founder, who died September 17th 1069. In the isle of the north side of the choir King Edward II. who was murdered at Berkeley castle 1327. King Ofrick of Northumberland, who died about the year 600. Robert Curthoise, duke of Normandy, and eldest son to William the Conqueror; he was valiant in the holy wars, and made a Knight Templar, was also confined 26 years in Cardiff castle for rebelling against his brother the king. In the south side of the choir, lies abbot Seabrook, who died 1457, &c. Amongst the modern ones in the church is a beautiful design to the memory of Mrs. Morley, who died at sea in child bed; two angels are conducting her with her infant in arms, as she rises from the waves, expressive of this inscription;

"The Sea shall give up their dead."

It is well executed in white marble, by Flaxman. The most recent and excellent improvement here, is the new county gaol situate on the west side of the town, near the Severn and quay. It is a most extensive and superb building divided into upwards of 120 cells, besides gaoler's house, &c.; the outward wall incloses a space of 1250 feet. It has been begun about two years under the direction of Mr. Blackburn, whose similar performances we lately saw at Oxford, and will soon now be finished. This is I believe the largest in England, but the plan at Oxford, in form of a castle fortified, and all of stone, is most suitable and strong.

From hence we made an excursion north-east about ten miles, to Cheltenham. A vast range of hills, on the north-west, continues from the borders of Warwickshire and Worcestershire towards Bath, dividing the vale and the forest part of the county from the Cotswould; besides this great chain, we were amused with the distant hills of May, and Malvern rising nobly on our left; also close on our right, the pleasant hill of Church-down, whose parish tower stands peculiarly elevated. Cheltenham is situated in a sandy vale, on the north side of rocky hills, whose soft white texture partly dissolving in acids, looks, opposite the town, quite bare. According to domesday-book, when Edward the Confessor held this manor, there were eight hides and an half. In the time of King Edward it paid 9l. 5s. and 3000 loaves for the king's dogs. In the reign of William the conqueror it paid 20l. 20 cows and 20 hogs, and 16s. in lieu of bread. Without giving any further history of this place, we will proceed to describe briefly its present flourishing state and fashionable Spa; which valuable spring owes its discovery to Mr. Mason, the then proprietor of the land, who bought it of Mr. Higgs in 1716; Capt. Henry Skillicorne, father of the present owner, became proprietor in right of his wife, daughter of Mr. Mason, and in 1738 not only secured it from all improper matter, but

built a dome over it with pumps on each side. He then laid out the walks, &c. and from that time it seems to have been frequented as a public place. It is said to be impregnated upon the same principle as Scarborough medicated waters; but perhaps may be found more generally efficacious. Its admirable qualities, besides the general testimony of daily experience, are well authenticated by the experiments of doctors Short, Lucas, Ruffel, and Smith. The town consists of one principal street near a mile in length, near the centre of which stands an handsome old church with a beautiful spire; the walks in the church-yard are shady and pleasant, leading to those about the well, &c. the greatest of which is about twenty feet wide, and makes an agreeable mall. On the east side of the Pump-square, is an excellent long room, 66 feet by 23, built 1775, by Mr. Skillicorne the ground owner, and Mr. Miller the renter of the Spa. In this are public breakfasts, &c. during the season from May to October. From hence the vista of the large walk terminated by the spire is pleasing to the eye: and at the termination of this walk continued above the wells, they are erecting another new building, as an object, though very inferior, to answer it. Every exertion seems used to render the various lodgings, &c. adequate to the great increase of company, particularly since the late visit of the royal family. Besides a vast number of private lodgings, here are an excellent hotel built in 1785, and several good inns. We are also informed that a piece of ground has been lately purchased for the purpose of building an hotel upon a most extensive plan. The company in 1780 amounted only to 374, from which time it has gradually increased, and in 1786 consisted of 1140, and last year of 1320. The two public rooms, for the entertainment of the company, under the direction of a master of the ceremonies, (Mr. Moreau,) are Mr. Rooke's, 60 feet by 30, and Mr. Miller's, 68 by 26, which take the amusements of dancing, cards, &c. alternate. Here is also a neat theatre-royal built by Mr. Watson and much frequented; the performers have been very choice this season, particularly that inimitable favourite of Thalia, Mrs. Jordan, who gave such high satisfaction to the audience that a medal is to be presented to her as an acknowledgment. From Cheltenham we proceeded onward to visit Sudely castle; the roads were very deep and indifferent, but the wonderful variety of views repaid us. In our way we passed by the curious house of the Delaberes at Southam; it is an object very well worth notice, being a low building in the stile of the age of Henry IV. but by the incurious eye it would be passed as a very obscure and undistinguished mansion. Soon after, having ascended very high hills, we got upon the Wouds, which are entirely champaign. The dusk now began to come on, and I confess such an extent of plain as we could, notwithstanding, discern before us, was not at this time very pleasing; however we arrived at the small inn (inn it is hardly to be called) at Winchcombe, and there necessity obliged us to rest for the night. However we had not patience to stay till the morning before we visited Sudely castle, but sallied forth about a mile, through corn fields, to take a transient view of its venerable walls by twilight. It was just the time to visit a place, of which the imagination had been previously full; we returned with our ardour to inspect it increased, and went again the next morning. This ancient lordship belonged at the conquest to Harold, son of Ralph, who was earl of Hereford in the time of Edward the Confessor, and married that king's sister, but forfeited the earldom under the Conqueror. Harold however was suffered to retain this among other estates, and from hence assumed the name of Sudely. But the male line* of this noble family became extinct 41st of Ed-

* However the Tracys are said, upon good authority, (though Dugdale does not mention it) to be, by the male line, of this family. Todington, the present seat of lord Tracy, and his ancestors for 500 years, was a manor of Harold de Sudely at the conquest, and the younger son of his son John, who married a Tracy, took his mother's name, and settled at Todington.

ward III. and then the sister and coheir carried it in marriage to William Boteler, a younger son of William lord Boteler, of Wemme in Shropshire. His son Thomas lord Sudely had issue John and Ralph, who successively enjoyed the honour. "Ralph Boteler lord Sudely," says Leland, "made this castle a Fundamentis, and when it was made, it had the price of all the buildings of those days. He was a famous man of warre in king Henry V. and Henry VIth's days, and was an admiral, (as I have heard) at sea; whereupon it was supposed and spoken that it was partly builded *ex spoliis Gallorum*, and some speake of a tower in it called Potmare's towre, that it should be made of a ranfome of his. One thing there was to be noticed in this castle, that part of the windowes was glazed with berall. There had been a manor place at Sudeley, before the building of the castle, and the plotte is yet seene in Sudely Parke, where it stoode." This Ralph lord Sudely was a great partizan of Henry VI. and by him made lord treasurer of England. Upon the accession therefore of Edward IV. he was attached and brought to London, and when he was on his way, looking back from an hill to the castle, he said, "Sudeley castle, thou art the traytor, not I." After this, he sold the castle, (not voluntarily, no doubt) to the king. He left no issue, but descendants from his sisters*. Upon the accession of Henry VII. Jasper of Hatfield, duke of Bedford, that king's uncle, had a grant of it, and dying S. P. it reverted to the crown. "But now, it goeth to ruin," says Leland, "more pitie." Soon after, however, its splendor was revived; it was granted 1st of Edward VI. to Thomas Seymour, (younger brother to the duke,) who was about the same time created lord Seymour of Sudely, and lord high admiral of England. He was an ambitious turbulent man, and having married Catherine Parr, widow of Henry VIII. the jealousies of the duke of Somerset's most proud and unamiable wife caused dissensions between the brothers, which fomented by the arts of those who plotted the downfall of the whole family, ended in the loss of his head, and soon after of his brother's. While he lived, however, he kept up great pomp in this place. The queen his wife died in childbed here, September 5th, 1548, and was buried with great funeral magnificence in the chapel of the castle. I was informed that some curious people took up the body some time since, and found it in perfect preservation. After this the admiral aspired to the bed of the Princess Elizabeth, and it has been hinted that previous designs of this kind hastened the death of the queen his wife. He was beheaded March 20th, 1549. Soon after this castle was granted to William Parr, marquis of Northampton, brother to Queen Catherine, beforementioned; and he being attainted 1st of May, 1553, it was granted to Sir John Bruges of Coberley†, in this county, knt. who on April 8th, 1554, was created by letters patent Baron Chandos of Sudely-castle. From that time, this family resided here in great pomp and splendor down to George, the sixth baron. Giles, third lord Chandos, entertained Queen Elizabeth here in one of her progresses, 1592.‡ Grey lord Chandos, his nephew, was called King of Coteswold, from his interest in these parts, and his splendid manner of living. He died 19th of James I. George his son abovenamed, was one of the most eminent loyalists, on the part of Charles I. To stop the beginning of this horrid war, this nobleman hastened down into the country, to arm his tenants and servants, and garrison this castle,

* Leland mentions the figures of these Botelers, in the glass windows of Winchecombe church.

† Coberley was inherited by marriage with the Berkleys, (to whom it belonged at the conquest) in the time of Henry IV. It has long been alienated from the family.

‡ Queen Elizabeth's Progresses, vol. ii. 1591, p. 3. This is the lord Chandos, whose portrait we saw at lord Harcourt's, at Nuncham, beforementioned. There are portraits of his two daughters at Woburne, the duke of Bedford's.

seated, says Loyd, commodiously on the meetings of the vales and woulds, to defend and command the country, especially my lord's three darlings, the woods, the cloathing, and the iron works; thence he waited on the king at Shrewsbury, with 1000 men, and 5000*l.* in plate. His castle meanwhile under Captain Bridges, and some 60 soldiers, being besieged by Massie with 300 musqueteers, &c. after a long siege, several assaults and batteries, when they were almost smothered by the smoke of hay and barns burned about the house, yielded January 1642.* The rebels, breaking the articles sworn to, "plunder," (says Mercurius Rusticus,)[†] "not only the castle and Winchcombe, a neighbouring village, to the utter undoing the poor inhabitants, but in defence of the protestant religion, and vindication of the honour of God, they defile his house. There is in the castle a goodly fair church, here they dig up the graves and disturb the ashes of the dead; they break down the ancient monuments of the Chandos's, and instead thereof leave a prodigious monument of their sacrilegious profaneness: for each part of the church they find a peculiar way to profane it: the lower part of it they make their stable; the chancel their slaughter-house. Unto the pulpit (which of all other places in probability might have escaped their impiety) they fasten pegs to hang the carcases of the slaughtered sheep; the communion-table, according to their own language they make their dresser or chopping board to cut out their meat; into the vault, wherein lay the bodies of the Chandoses, an ancient and honourable family, they cast the guts and garbage, mingling the loathsome intrals of beasts with those bones and ashes which did there rest in hope of a joyful resurrection. The nave and body of the church was all covered with the dung and blood of beasts: and which was, (if it be possible) a degree beyond these profanations, in contempt of God and his holy temple, they defile each part and corner both of church and chancel with their excrements; and going away left nothing behind them in the church (besides walls and seats) but a stinking memory, that part of the parliament army, raised for defence of religion, had been there." The lord Chandos meanwhile distinguished himself at the battle of Newbery, 1643, (where his horse was killed under him) the king saying, "let Chandos alone, his errors are safe."[‡] Soon after he recovered Sudeley-castle, but in 1644, when Sir William Waller pursued the king from Oxford to Worcester, it endured a second siege. Lord Clarendon says,[§] "the general persuaded rather than forced the garrison to surrender. The lord of that castle was a young man of spirit and courage; and had for two years served the king very bravely in the head of a regiment of horse, which himself had raised at his own charge, but had lately, out of pure weariness of the fatigue, and having spent most of his money, and without any diminution of his affection, left the king under pretence of travel; but making London his way, he gave himself up to the pleasures of that place; which he enjoyed, without considering the issue of the war, or shewing any inclination to the parliament." It was under the government of Sir William Morton, a lawyer, (after the restoration, a judge) who had given signal instances of courage, but at this time the castle (in consequence of a faction within) was delivered up without much resistance. Lord Chandos did not survive the restoration. He lies buried in a small chapel annexed to the church. Somebody lately descended into the vault, and finding his skull, took away a lock of his hair. He left this castle, and the estates around (away from his brother to whom the honour went,) to his wife, by whom he had daughters, but who with a gratitude that ought to be remembered, left it to her second husband Mr. Pitt, and

* Loyd's *Sufferings of the Loyalists*, p. 366.

† Loyd's *Loyalists*, p. 367.

‡ P. 67, 68.

§ Vol. 2. p. 409.

her children by him, in consequence of which it was alienated from the family who had a right to it, for ever, and Lord Rivers, Mr. Pitt's descendant, now enjoys it with an estate belonging to it of about 4000*l.* a year. It is now only inhabited by the steward. The park is gone. Of the two quadrangles, the inner one was built of stone, and had the hall in it, (of which part of the tracery of the beautiful large gothic window, much shattered, remains;) and seems to have had four towers at the corners; the outer quadrangle, where is the large gateway, was built principally of wood, and seems to have contained the habitable parts. Part of this alone is now fit for habitation. The shell of the church unroofed, unpaved, and bare within side to the walls, yet exists. In the little chapel annexed, divine service is performed monthly. From hence not having time to inspect the town of Winchcombe, or the neighbourhood further, we hastily returned to Gloucester.

The day following we made another excursion into that division of the county, called the Cotswould, south east of that immense range of hills, which divide the vale. It takes its name, according to Camden, from the hills and sheep-cotes; for mountains in old times, by Englishmen, were termed Woulds. We continued for some miles along this delightful vale of fertile meadows and pastures, &c. Robin-hood's hill, and Becon, were the first noble objects on our left; May-hill and the forest of Dean, boldly terminating the prospect to the right. As we approach Durbridge, through the village of Stonehouse, Lord Ducie's woods hang gloriously before us. Here we enter amongst the cloth manufactures so numerous and excellent in this country. I shall say little about its antiquity and various progress in different reigns: we find wool first manufactured in England 1185, 31st of Henry II. but no quantity made till 1331, when John Kempe introduced this art from Brabant and settled at York; afterwards many families of cloth-workers came from the Netherlands, by King Edward's invitation. The city of Gloucester some centuries ago was famous for this manufacture; as also various other towns in this county; but it has of late years been mostly seated amongst these delightful vallies, whose brooks and rivers, are found so conducive to the goodness of this cloth, particularly in the dying branch. Hampton, Stroud, Stonehouse, Painswick, Stanley, Uley, Durfley, and Ruxmore, are places of most note. The latter of which (belonging to Mr. Cooper,) soon after crossing the new canal, from Severn to Thames, we minutely inspected: his Majesty had lately honoured it with his presence; at which time every possible branch of operations was displayed on an adjacent green, to the delight and satisfaction of the royal spectators and the attendant multitude. We saw every thing in its natural state and place; first the milling, which by a long process of beating, by hammers, worked with a water wheel, thickens the cloth after it is woven; next the wool is raised on its surface by the repeated use of cards made of teasels, (a thistly plant produced in the west;)* after this it is sheared in a very pleasing manner by large instruments, whose motion is so confined as not to endanger cutting the cloth; thus they work till it becomes remarkably fine. The other processes are too simple and common to mention. Upon the whole I think this business cannot be deemed so entertaining by many degrees to the eye of a stranger, as that of the cotton, fustian, &c. in Derbyshire and Lancashire. These crowded hills and vales seem to have formed by nature a romantic and picturesque scenery, but this

* Teasels, Teazils, or Fullers thistles, grow wild in this and many other countries, and are sown and brought into regular cultivation, on account of their utility to cloth-workers &c. in raising the nap on their respective goods, by the means of certain hard sharp and crooked points which grow out of their numerous heads, and are admirably suited to that purpose. Campbells's Survey, vol. 2. page 105.

originality is greatly destroyed, like that of Matlock, by an abundance of modern buildings, and ornaments.

We now ascended a steep hill to the left, ornamented with the modern stone edifice and residence of sir George Paul. Having gained the vast summit beyond, by a new serpentine road, we found ourselves upon an extensive champaign. The sudden change of climate was almost incredible, but by experience, which verified the following assertion, I had previously met with, "such is the striking difference between the air of the Cotswold and that of the vale; that of the former it has commonly been observed, that eight months in the year are winter, and the other four too cold for summer; whereas in the vale, eight months are summer, and the remaining four too warm for an English winter." We dined at a single house, opposite to Minching Hampton, where formerly was a nunnery belonging to the Minching nuns at Caen in Normandy, and afterwards to Sion in Middlesex, in whose possession it remained till the dissolution of monasteries. Our landlord told us this was the highest spot in the county.

From hence the road is flat and unpleasant, and instead of the verdant bloom of hedge rows, the eye is constantly disgusted with the unsightly objects of loose stones heaped in strait lines and angles. We now approached the great tunnel, which forms part of the communication between the Severn and the Thames; on each side this road it extends rather more than a mile; one end penetrates the hill at the village of Saperton, the other comes out in Heywood; we turned on our left to visit the former, and saw the shafts busy in several places, at the distance of about 230 yards from each other; by this means they wind up the materials from the cavity and expedite the work. The earth is principally a hard blue marle, and in some places quite a rock which they blow up with gunpowder; the depth of these pits are upon an average eighty yards from the surface. The first contractor receives 7l. per yard from the company, and the labourers rent at the rate of about 5l. per yard, finding candles, gunpowder, &c. the workers are in eight gangs, having two or three reliefs, and continue eight hours at a time, day and night. We saw the Saperton mouth, which exhibits a brick arch, ornamented with a stone parapet in front; its dimensions are 13 feet by 15, and the brick work about 16 inches thick, which continues the whole length two miles and a half. The whole hill is now perforated, and the remainder of the arch will be finished in another year. This tunnel is considerably longer than that at Hare-castle in Staffordshire, but from the different nature of the hills not near so grand and curious; the latter abounding in coal, and therefore perforated with various collateral cavities, for the convenience of obtaining that valuable article. The Stroud canal enters the Severn at Framilode, and is eight miles in extent; it communicates with the Isis canal which is 31 miles long, and empties itself into that river at Lechlade.

From hence in our way to Cirencester, we left the road very soon and were permitted to pass through the noble woods of Oakley belonging to earl Bathurst, whose seat is adjacent to that ancient town. They are peculiarly large and beautiful; together with the park and home pleasure grounds, encompassing a space of no less than fifteen miles; near the centre is a grand circular point from which, like so many radii, issue ten spacious vistas or roads; the largest near 150 feet wide and sweetly terminated by a view of Cirencester tower; the others direct to some country church, or pleasant distant object, all producing a most admirable and uncommon effect. Besides these, there are innumerable other roads and walks intersecting the woods in various directions; on the left of the large vista leading to the town, is Alfred's hall, an excellent imitation of antiquity, "bosom'd high in tufted trees," and surrounded with
beautiful

beautiful lawns, a bowling green, and many delightful grassy walks. The truffle is said to be found here very plentifully. As the sun was closing up his glories for the day, we retired to an excellent inn, (King's-head,) at Cirencester.

This has been a famous city of antiquity called by Ptolemy, Corinium; by the Britons *Caer-Ceri*; the English Saxons, Cirencester, and by contraction at this day *Ciceter*, situate on the river Churn, seventeen miles from Gloucester on the old London road. The multiplicity of coins, chequered pavements, inscriptions, &c. dug up here at various times, shew it to have been a place of consequence; the remains of strong walls and a castle indicate marks of its being once well fortified. The Britons defended it many years against the Saxons, who at last obliged them to submit, together with the cities of Gloucester and Bath, at the battle of *Durham* five miles from the latter anno 577, in which three British kings were slain. Various were the events of war and sieges here in almost every succeeding reign, till 1400, 1st Henry IV. when the duke of Surrey and earl of Salisbury, duke of Exeter, and earl of Gloucester, took up arms in favour of King Richard II. (grandson of Edward III. from whom sprang the houses of York and Lancaster;) and were lodged at two inns, when the mayor or head officer being apprised of their lodging, collected about four hundred of the inhabitants, and broke in upon the duke of Surry and earl of Salisbury, who being much wounded, were immediately beheaded; the other two escaped, but were soon after taken and suffered the same fate. Thus originated those unhappy feuds, on the accession of the house of Lancaster. This was also one of those places that surrendered to the army of Charles I. but the royalists did not continue long in possession of it; and when the plan for the glorious revolution was laid, we find the duke of Beaufort opposing the lord Lovelace, who was going with a band of men to join the Prince of Orange, then landed in the west of England. A dispute ensued between the contending parties, wherein some lost their lives, and the lord Lovelace was taken prisoner, and committed to Gloucester castle; but soon after released by the abdication of the king, and the new government taking place. It is now a good market town and borough, with two weekly markets; the quantity of wool sold here at one time was almost incredible, owing to the surrounding Cotswold so famous for sheep, which made it the greatest mart for the supply of the clothiers in this county and Wilts; but this is much declined since the dealers in this article travel from place to place and buy it of the farmers. It would be an injustice to omit mentioning the present stately church, whose lofty and handsome tower is a great ornament to this place; but the body is too much crowded with old buildings to be properly seen, the windows of which are beautifully decorated with historical painted glass. Here was a collegiate church before the conquest, and Rumbald, who was chancellor of England in the reign of Edward the confessor, had been dean of it; but when celibacy amongst the clergy was established by law, Henry I. built a magnificent abbey in its stead, 1117. It continued to flourish and receive large donations for succeeding times. It was one of the mitred abbeys, and in the reign of Henry V. 1416, the abbot obtained the high privilege of a seat in parliament amongst the barons. At the dissolution its annual revenues amounted to 1057l. 7s. 1d. The whole of this ancient structure has been long destroyed, except two gates which still serve to give some idea of its former grandeur. The site of this abbey was in the crown, till it was granted to Richard Masters, physician to Queen Elizabeth, whose descendant, Thomas Masters, member for the county, hath here an handsome house and pleasure grounds. His brother is also member for the county, hath here an handsome house and pleasure grounds. His brother is also member for the town, which place their ancestors have long represented. The choice of
election

election is in the inhabitants, not receiving alms. Hence the duke of Portland takes his title of baron.

We now had an agreeable drive through the remainder of lord Bathurst's grounds, whose beautiful walks, lawns, and extensive plantations do the highest credit to the taste and spirit of Allan earl Bathurst, father to the present proprietor. Besides the several ornamental buildings on the delightful terrace, which commands distant and fine views, we are pleased with various objects of this kind, interspersed amidst the lawns and vistas of the deer park, particularly a noble lofty column, on the top of which is placed the statue of Queen Anne, as large as life: from hence we have a charming view of the house, with the tower of the church placed so directly in the centre behind, that at first we are induced to believe them one and the same elegant structure. We now passed by an handsome alcove, dedicated to the immortal Pope, where he used often to retire to indulge the creative fallies of his genius, when on a visit to his noble friend and patron. Opposite to this we were again amused with Oakley woods in miniature, a lawn from whose centre seven more vistas are directed to various pleasing objects, particularly that stately column just mentioned. Here we took a grateful leave and crossed through the fields, about a mile to the village of Stratton, where we entered the great Gloucester road. The clouds, which had been threatening long, now began to pour their copious stores upon the bleak downs of Cotswould; thus we travelled many miles amidst those unsheltering walls of stone, till we gladly arrived on that immense verge of Birdlip, whose summit, on a level with most of the Cotswould, so gloriously hangs, near 1350 feet above the water of the Severn. Here the lovely and delicious vale of Gloucester again burst sweetly on our sight, and its fair city, to whose arms we were now eagerly returning, smiled even in this misty eclipse of clouds and rain.

A similarity of weather begun the day following, but in the afternoon we took the opportunity of a favourable interval, and pursued our course 16 miles to Newport, on the Bristol road, where we slept that evening, and the next morning visited Berkeley, close by, one of the largest parishes in this county, surrounded by rich meadows, and supposed to take its name from Berk, signifying a beech and lea pasture; as the whole vale is particularly celebrated for making cheese, called double Gloucester, so is this hundred, for the most delicious sort, called double Berkeley, it has a large parish church with a more recent handsome tower, standing separate at the opposite side of the church-yard; superstition says that on the decay of the original tower, the new one could not be built in its place. Adjoining to this is the ancient and eminent castle of the present earl Berkeley. The whole of this noble edifice is more to be admired for its antiquity than beauty; its situation being so low, and sometimes surrounded by a flood of spring-tide, flowing up the little Avon from the Severn just below. Roger de Berkeley was possessed of this lordship at the conquest; and this being his chief seat, in imitation of the Normans*, assumed his name from hence. His other lordships in this county were Coberley, Dodinton, and Siston, as appears by domesday-book. From hence hasty readers conclude that the present family have been here from the conquest; but a different story soon will appear. This Roger made several pious gifts to religious houses. His nephew and successor William, founded an abbey of the Cistercian order at Kingswood; which was confirmed by Roger, son of William. This Roger, adhering to Maud the empress, underwent a

* These are Dugdale's words, (Bar. I. 349.) by which it seems he was an Englishman. But whether these estates were then granted him, or he was only suffered to retain them, does not by this appear.

very hard fate, through the perfidiousness and cruelty of Walter, brother to Milo, earl of Hereford, his seeming friend, being treacherously seized on, stripped naked, exposed to scorn, put into fetters, and thrice drawn up by a rope about his neck, on a gallows, at his own castle gates with threats, that if he would not deliver up that his castle to the earl, he should suffer a miserable death: and when he was by this barbarous usage, almost dead, carried to prison there to suffer further tortures. If there is no mistake in the name of the party, on whose behalf Roger suffered this, his son Roger adhered to the side which used him so ill, for he was a violent partizan of King Stephen; and in those contests, the castle and honor of Berkeley were taken from him and granted by Henry duke of Normandy (after Henry II.) to Robert Fitzharding, an adherent of his, whose father Harding is said to have been a younger son of a king of Denmark, and accompanied the Conqueror to England. Berkeley obtained Dursely again, of which he had been also deposed, and did not cease to vex Fitzharding for Berkeley also. Complaint therefore being made to duke Henry, he compromised the matter, by an agreement that Fitzharding's son should marry Berkeley's daughter, and Berkeley's son Fitzharding's daughter; so that poor Berkeley never recovered his castle; of which Fitzharding had a confirmation on the accession of Henry II.* Then it was that according to Smith's manuscripts, he built for Fitzharding the castle, which is now standing, in pursuance of a previous promise. He adds, that it was built upon the site of a ruined nunnery, demolished by the artful practice of Godwin, earl of Kent, in the time of Edward the Confessor, which stratagem is related at length by Camden. Yet it is certain that there was a castle here from the conquest to this time; is it not therefore more probable, that if it was rebuilt at this time, it was out of the ruins of the former castle, which former one had been built out of the ruins of the nunnery? At first it contained no more than the inmost of the three gates, and the buildings within the same; for the two outmost gates, and all the buildings belonging to them, except the keep, were the additions of lord Maurice, eldest son of the lord Robert, in the latter end of King Henry II; and of lord Thomas, the second of that name, in Edward II, and of lord Thomas, the third of that name, in 18th of Edward III. And as for the great kitchen, (great indeed) standing without, but adjoining to the keep of the castle, it was the work

* Thus cruelly ended the title of the genuine and original Berkeleys to this place, and their nobility with it, was transferred to the usurpers. Yet they by no means became extinct till long after; they retained Dursely, Dodinton, and Coberley. In the time of Richard II. says Camden, the heiress of Dursely was married to Cantelow. Afterwards both Dursely and Dodinton came to the Wykes, as some say by descent, but Leland's words are these. "Dodinton, where master Wykes dwellythe and hathe well restored his house withe faire buildings. This maner place and land longyd onto Barkels. It was purchasyd, and now remaynith to Wykes." In another place he says, "part of Driseley" (Dursely) "Castell was brought to make the new house of Dodinton. A Quarre of Tophe stone by Driseleyge, whereof much of the castelle was buildid. The olde place of Dodinton within the mote by the new." Itin. vol. vi. fol. 76. vol. vii. part 2. fol. 72. a. The branch which were settled at Coberley continued there a long while. Roger De Berkeley so cruelly deposed of Berkeley, afterwards in 12th Henry II, certified his knights fees to be two and an half De Veteri Feoffamento; besides two knights fees of his own demesne in Coberley; &c. which I think implies his mansion was then there. His eldest son Roger married according to the agreement the daughter of Fitzharding; and about 13th of John certified that there belonged six knights fees and an half to his honor of Dursely. Coberley continued the seat of one branch of his descendants; and Gough mentions the figures of several cross-legged knights of them in the church of this parish. At length Sir Thomas Berkeley, son and heir of Sir Giles, son and heir of Sir Thomas, married the sister and coheir of sir John Chandos, K. G. the famous warrior in the time of Edward III. and his daughter and coheir carried Coberley to her husband sir Thomas Brugge, of Brugge-Solers, in Herefordshire, and his descendants resided here till the time of John, the first lord Chandos, who had a grant of Sudely castle. Thus ended the original Berkeleys, whose arms were different from the present, viz. Argt. a fesse between three martlets sable.

of King Henry VII. at his first entrance into possession thereof, about the 9th of his reign, soon after the death of William Marquis Berkeley, who had conveyed the same amongst others, to that king. Besides these there were two beautiful chapels or oratories endowed with divers privileges from the bishops of Rome. Thus hath this noble castle continued with one alienation only, of short duration, the baronial residence of this family, during the lapse of more than six centuries. Here the second Edward ended an inglorious reign, having been given up with this castle to the Mortimers, by Thomas lord Berkeley, who was afterwards honorably acquitted by his peers of being accessory to his death. In Shakespeare we find Berkeley thus recorded, during the commotions which distracted the government in the last years of the reign of Richard II.

Northumberland. "How far is it to Berkeley? and what stir
Keeps good old York there with his men of war?"

Percy. There stands the castle, by yon tuft of trees,
Mann'd with three hundred men, as I have heard:
And in it are the lords of York, Berkeley, and Seymour;
None else of name or noble estimate".

In the contentions of York and Lancaster this castle had no share; but it suffered greatly from the disputed title to its possession between the heir male and Richard Beauchamp, earl of Warwick, the heir general. "In 1418, the earl of Warwick lay before the castle with an armed force fully determined to destroy it, but was diverted from his purpose by the intercession of the bishop of Worcester, and the neighbouring gentry." After lord Warwick's decease, his heirs preferred their claims in a suit that continued near a century and half. Wearied with the tedious process of law, frequent recourse was had to the decision of the sword, and at length the dispute was finally determined by combat on Nibly green, when the claim of William, 6th lord Berkeley, was confirmed by the death of Thomas lord Lisle, whom he defeated in the field. This William was afterwards created a marquis, and himself cruelly left away the castle from his brother, who was heir; and it was not recovered till the time of his brother's grandson, on the death of Edward VI. When the castle ceased to be a place of defence, numerous parts were added. The hall, built in the reign of Edward III. is a lofty room, 48 feet by 35, with four windows to the north, of Norman architecture. This is truly adequate to the idea of ancient barons; around hung several warlike instruments, and here they told us his lordship kept up an annual relick of English hospitality, that of feasting his tenants, &c. the small chapel contains nothing worthy of notice. Dining room 48 by 27, over the chimney, a fine old painting—paying tribute to Cæsar; James I, very excellent; John 1st lord Berkeley of Stratton, youngest son of sir Maurice, by Vandyke; and many others. Drawing-room 42 by 24, very old tapestry, and furniture of the same. Besides a numerous set of portraits of the family, were Queen Elizabeth, Queen Mary I, Jane Shore, &c. The other apartments are very small, hung with variety of family pictures, miniatures, &c. amongst which are some of sir Godfrey Kneller, Vandyke, and sir P. Lely. George baron Berkeley, 1616, by C. Jansen; the Queen of Bohemia, by the same. In a curious cabinet room, excavated from the wall, are these valuable miniatures; Maurice lord Berkeley, 1518; Katharine his wife, having the same date; Thomas lord Berkeley, his brother, 1523; Thomas lord Berkeley, 1534; Henry lord Berkeley, 1554; lady Jane his second wife, daughter of sir Miles Stan-

* King Richard II. Act 2. Scene third.

hope; Thomas Berkeley who died before his father lord Henry, and was succeeded by his grandson George lord Berkeley 1616, whose portrait, by Jansen, before mentioned, compleats the series for 100 years. Amongst the furniture we saw two very curious state-beds, one of which was brought from Thornbury castle, and bore the date of 1530. Also the bed in which Admiral Drake failed round the world. Opposite lord Berkeley's dressing-room is a neat garden formed in a circular space on the top of the castle; in the centre is a cold bath, covered like a tent; we walked round and had a charming view of the Severn and hills beyond. Lastly we were shewn the dismal room in which Edward II. was most cruelly butchered.

"Mark the year and mark the night,
When Severn shall re-echo with affright
The shrieks of death, thro' Berkeley's roofs that ring,
Shrieks of an agonizing king*."

The model of his head taken in plaister lay in a box. After being deprived of his kingdom by the artifice of his wife, this murder was effected by the subtle contrivance of Adam bishop of Hereford, who sent these enigmatical words to his keepers without any points:

Edwardum occidere nolite timere bonum est

To seek to shed King Edward's blood
Refuse to fear I think it good.

So that by this double construction they might be encouraged to commit this horrid deed, and he plausibly vindicated from giving any directions to it. "In surveying this proud monument of feudal splendor and magnificence, the very genius of chivalry seems to present himself, amidst the venerable remains, with a sternness and majesty of air and feature, which shew what he once has been, and a mixture of disdain for the degenerate posterity that robbed him of his honours. Amidst such a scene the manly exercises of knighthood recur to the imagination in their full pomp and solemnity; while every patriot feeling beats at the remembrance of the generous virtues which were nursed in those schools of fortitude, honour, courtesy, and wit, the mansions of our ancient nobility."†

From hence we drove to Thornbury, a well looking old town, with a most excellent church and tower, built in the form of a cathedral, the pinnacles of which are exceedingly beautiful. Adjacent to this are the noble remains of a castle belonging to the second son of the late Mr. Howard, of Sheffield. It was begun upon a most extensive plan, by the duke of Buckingham, in Henry VIIIth's time. Leland, treating of it in his Itinerary, says, "Edward, late duke of Buckingham, likynge the foyle aboute, and the site of the house, pulled downe a greate part of the old house, and sette up magnificently in good square stone the south side of it, and accomplished the west part also with a right comely gate-house to the first foyle: and so it standithe yet, with a rose forced for a time. This inscription on the front of the gate-house: this gate was began in the yere of our Lorde God 1511, the 2d yere of the reigne of Kynge Henry the VIII. by me Edward, duke of Buckingham, earl of Hereford, Staforde, and Northampton." He likewise made a fine park near the castle; for which purpose he inclosed a considerable tract of rich corn land. (Atkins says, he had licence from Henry VII.

* Gray's Bard.

† Bigland's Gloucestershire, page 156, to which I am indebted for other particulars.

to impark 1000 acres.) This, according to Leland, drew on him the curses of the neighbourhood. He also proposed to have brought up to the castle a small branch of the Severn, which flowed into the park. He did not, however, live either to perform this, or to finish his buildings, being beheaded 1522; and his estates then escheating to the crown. In the outer court are barracks for 100 men. The part which was finished shews great marks of beauty and magnificence; on a curious wrought chimney piece is a date 1514. The whole circumference of the walls measures 12 acres. In one corner, where is a bench, you have the finest echo possible; with a shrill note and clear air you may distinctly count a repetition of 16 or 18 times, and with a laughing voice the mockery is wonderful. I never remember to have received more satisfaction from any antique relick of this kind than this present place afforded. In the evening after a delightful ride we arrived at the Bush tavern, Bristol.

This noble city, situate in an uneven vale partly in Somersetshire and Gloucestershire, between the river Avon and Frome, was called by the Britons *Caer Oder* *nant Badon*, or the city *Oder* in *Badon* valley: in the catalogue of ancient cities it is called *Caer Brito*, and in Saxon *Brightstowe*, a beautiful or famous place. At what time and by whom this city was built seems uncertain: our antiquaries think it of a late date, there being no mention of it in history during the Danish wars. Camden is of opinion that it rose in the declension of the Saxon government, since it is not noticed before 1063, when Harold (according to Florence of Worcester) set sail from hence to invade Wales. In the beginning of the Normans, this city with *Berton* an adjacent farm, "paid to the King (as appears from domesday-book) 110 marks of silver; and the burgeses also returned, that bishop G. had 33 marks, and one mark of gold." Geoffry bishop of Constance raising a rebellion against William Rufus, chose this city for the seat of war, and fortified it with an inner wall. In the reign of Henry I, during the wars between the empress Maud and king Stephen, here was a castle built by her party to strengthen this place against that king, who being taken prisoner in battle was ordered to be sent here, by the empress, to be loaded with chains, and fed with a very slender diet. This place had no great concern in arms till the civil wars, when it suffered greatly. In 1643 it was besieged by the king's army, which being numerous and fresh, soon made their way into it, though strongly garrisoned by the parliament with 2500 foot, and a regiment of horse, the castle well manned, and stored with provisions. This reduction of Bristol, though effected at the expence of much gallant blood, gained the King all this shire and Wales. Thus the city remained in the King's possession during the following year, but was soon after retaken, by Waller, with a large army besieging it against prince Rupert and lord Hopton, which loss so much angered the king, (for his heart was set upon saving Bristol) that he sent a letter to that prince from Ragland castle, to deprive him of his commission, and order him to provide for himself beyond sea, for he would trust to him no longer. Next to London, it may now be esteemed one of the largest and most wealthy cities in Great Britain; its convenient situation for trade, having two such navigable rivers running through it, deep enough at high tide for ships of the greatest burden, gives it superior advantage. The merchants trade very largely to Guinea and the West Indies, besides carrying on the Dutch, Norway, and Russian commerce, and import great quantities of fruits, wine, sugar, oils, &c. The quay now completed is spacious and handsome, and so replete with every kind of vessels, that the multiplicity of masts appear like trees in a forest. Over the Froome is a large curious draw-bridge with two stone arches; over the Avon is a very beautiful and spacious bridge, rebuilt near twenty years; consisting of three wide and lofty arches with a fine ballustrade seven feet high, and raised footways guarded by chain-work and well lighted with

with lamps; at the further end are two dome-like edifices for the purpose of collecting tolls. The avenues leading to it, which were before narrow streets very dangerous and impassable, are an improvement and satisfaction to the passenger, better felt than described. The churches, 18 in number, with various public edifices, charitable institutions, &c. are too abundant to have a minute description here; the violent rains which now fell were also very unfavourable for our purpose, but some of the principal objects, which we stole an opportunity of inspecting, shall not be omitted. The cathedral, situate in College-green, founded in the reign of King Stephen, 1140, by Robert Fitzharding, mentioned at Berkeley, is too inconsiderable to engross much time or notice. St. Mary Redcliff, without the walls, is peculiarly worth attention, and we may unite with Camden, in calling it the finest parish church in England. It is a most magnificent Gothic structure of a cathedral form, 191 feet from east to west, and 117 from north to south; the pillars and vaulted roof wrought in most beautiful stone workmanship; the organ is esteemed very excellent, and over the altar are three large paintings, representing the Burial, Resurrection, and Ascension, by Hogarth. This charming edifice was originally founded by Simon de Burton: in the year 1292, part of it was destroyed, and rebuilt by William Canning, the richest merchant in this city, who, to avoid marrying King Edward IVth's mistress, took the order of priest, and forfeited 300 marks for his peace, to be paid in 2470 ton of shipping; he died 1474, and has two monuments, one in his magistratal, the other in his clerical habit, in the south end of this church. Near this stands an immense tripod of brass, with an eagle upon it of the same, said to be made from the filings of pins, and given by James Wathen, Pinmaker. On a pillar is also a monumental inscription to the memory of Sir William Penn, knight, Vice Admiral, and father to William Penn the Quaker, over which hung the trophies of war. We now ascended about forty steps in the tower, to see the refuse of old chests from whence poor Chatterton is said to have taken the manuscripts of Rowley's Poems; no atom of the kind now remaining, our curiosity was satisfied and we descended. The generality of the streets are such as we find in most large towns of opulence and traffic; its centre, like most cities, is too narrow and crowded, but its external parts more spacious and elegant; the very great increase of buildings of late years is surprizing, and since the act of parliament prohibiting all kinds of houses except stone and brick, an universal improvement has ensued. Here are several good parades, squares, &c. the principal we saw is Queen-square, spacious and handsome; the Custom-house is a fine building with a piazza of Ionic pillars before it; in the middle is an excellent equestrian statue of William III, executed with a great deal of spirit; but here is an omission in the furniture, though not so palpable as that at Charing-cross, where the artist has forgot the necessary fastening to the saddle; this only wants the throat-band to the bridle.

Amongst the public buildings the Exchange in Corn-street claims most attention, being a complete piece of modern architecture 100 feet in front and 148 deep; between the columns and pilasters are various festoon ornaments, representing Great Britain and the four quarters of the world, their chief products and manufactures; the quadrangular piazzas within are Corinthian; dimensions 90 feet by 80. This capital structure of entire free stone was erected and opened in 1743, by the late Mr. Wood, of Bath, and may vie with that famous one in Corn-hill, though on a different construction, replete with statues, which owes its origin to the great Sir Thomas Gresham. On the tolzey, or walk in front, are several of the old brass pillar tablets, used by the merchants to transact business before the building of this Exchange. Adjacent to this is another handsome and commodious stone edifice, the Post-office. Guild-hall, and



Engraved by W. Cooke.

St. Vincent's Rocks near Bristol from the West.

and Merchant-taylors' in Broad-street; Coopers'-hall, in King-street, with four noble Corinthian columns, and a lofty pediment in front, also Merchants'-hall, and the Assembly-room in Princess-street, whose ball-room is 90 feet long, has a magnificent front with double pillars of the Corinthian order, and a handsome pediment. In King-street is also an excellent Theatre, open only in the summer by the King's company from Bath, &c.

A general characteristic of the inhabitants in this populous city is hardly to be obtained by the most intimate acquaintance; we who are such new visitors cannot presume then to this knowledge. A mixture of all countries, professions and sects, compose the greater part, so that their dialect and manners are not strongly marked by any provincial peculiarities.

During a short interval of fair weather we made a pleasant excursion to the Hot-wells, situate about a mile and a half from the city near those tremendous rocks, which seem rent asunder by some extraordinary violence of nature. There is very little interruption of buildings the whole way; for the accommodation of company which attend in the season, the buildings contiguous are commodious and elegant; an excellent pump-room and lodgings, a small crescent with shops, &c. before which are some agreeable parades, the river Avon winding very near; beyond are two handsome long rooms, for assemblies, public breakfasts, &c. This warm spring was first noticed about the beginning of the last century, and at that time was covered with the sea at every high tide: its waters notwithstanding preserved their heat and virtues. At first it was a popular medicine for sore eyes, but the common people soon extended it to scorbutic and scrophulous diseases with equal success, and in process of time began to drink the waters, which they found equally salutary and pleasant; qualities perhaps no where else so thoroughly united. Doctor Vernor published their fame to the world, and when they came to be examined by the learned, their virtues were acknowledged, their effects particularly explained, and highly commended. The efficacious qualities of these waters, in all consumptive cases, owing to their being impregnated upon the best chemical principles by lime-stone quarries, through which they flow with a soft alkaline quality, are too well known to need further comment or quotation. At the delightful village of Clifton, on the vast hill above, so favourable in situation for invalids, are numerous and elegant lodgings, where, refreshed by the most pure and vivifying breezes they may, by the aid of these restoring springs and gentle exercise, chase away grim death. Besides the lodgings at Clifton there are many gentlemen's seats, and at the late Mr. Goldney's, now his widow's, is a very valuable and curious grotto, esteemed one of the best in England, but it is necessary to go with a recommendation from some of the owner's friends to gain admittance, for want of which we were disappointed. We now strolled awhile upon St. Vincent's rocks to enjoy the various charming prospects, &c. and see the tide-sworn river roll through the stupendous cliffs beneath, whilst the objects on and about its waves appeared in perfect miniature. We saw too the shuddering sight of men working out lime-stone from amidst the perpendicular sides, every moment in imminent danger, as if it were their last; the manner in which they climb down seems almost impossible, and the most fatal accidents do continually happen. Not far from hence are dug the Bristol stones, hard and transparent almost as real diamonds. We now returned to our tavern the Bush, at Bristol, which in justice to its merits deserves the praise of all who know it. The present owner, Mr. Weekes, certainly conducts this business with a spirit and attention beyond comparison; and for the benefit of the merchants and others, here are always to be found cold provisions and ordinaries on a plan much more reasonable and liberal than any other place in the kingdom. Amongst the
many

many public entertainments that are held at this house, we were witness to one very splendid and worth notice. It was an annual meeting of the West-India Captains, consisting of about 100 subscribers, who pay two guineas each *per ann.* to this excellent fund for the relief of their widows, orphans, or distressed families, similar to what is established by the clergy in most parts of the kingdom. From hence we proceeded to Bath through Keinsham, so called from Keina, a devout British virgin, whom the credulous of former ages believed changed serpents into stones, because great numbers of these fossils were found in the adjacent rocks. Here was formerly an abbey founded by William earl of Gloucester about 1170, and granted by Edward VIth to Thomas Brydges, 1553; on the site whereof was an handsome seat of the duke of Chandos*, till within ten or twelve years, which the mother of his present wife finding fault with he destroyed; the value of the materials only repaying what he had just then expended in repairs.

Bath now becoming our residence for a few days, our whole thoughts and attention were employed in ceaseless admiration of its incomparable beauties. The antiquity of this charming city is unquestionable, and its fame unrivalled ever since the discovery of its inestimable waters. How, or at what exact period I do not presume to determine; King Bladud and the story of the pigs may or may not be true; but as chance is commonly found to have been the parent of most of our greatest discoveries, it has that strongly in its favour. Ptolemy calls them *ῥοδαὶ θερμαὶ*, hot waters. The Britons called this place Yr Ennaint Twymin, which bears the same interpretation; also Caer Badon, i. e. the city of Bath. These waters have raised various conjectures how they derive their heat. Whether from passing through mineral beds, or from some subterraneous fire in the bowels of the earth, or, (as seems more probable from the experiments in chymistry,) whether their origin is dependant on the fermentation of two different sources, from the opposite hills Claverton and Landsdown, meeting in some caverns in this vale, which produce that hot, soft, milky liquid, so beneficial to mankind; whatever may be the cause, it is sufficient that their salubrious qualities have had the test of ages, and without some preternatural change, are not likely to fail.

The following abstract of a letter upon this subject, written in Latin, by Dr. Mearns of Bristol, to Dr. Prujean of London, I met with in Childrey's Rarities, and think it too curious to be omitted.

Bath, August the 2d, 1659.

"W and H. Sir,

"What I should have done long since, &c. The sacrifice I bring to your altar, will not, I conceive, be ungrateful. It is the strange accidental discovery of a noble mystery touching the cause of the heat of the Baths here; the search into which hath long exercised the most famous physicians; the manner of it was thus. The right honourable the lord Fairfax, who continues still at the Bath with his lady, riding abroad not far from this city two days ago, to take the air, by chance found a kind of chalk as white as snow, working here and there out of the ground in little heaps, like earth cast up by moles. A piece of this he brought home, and shewed me. It is a crumbling matter, and almost of itself turns to a small light dust; its taste is manifestly acid, with astringency; but by little and little, biting, and causing extream hot strangulation in the mouth, so that I am persuaded it hath much calcanthus in it, and is not altogether

* Descended from the elder brother of Thomas Bridges. The descendant of the said Thomas, (George Bridges, esq. of Avington, in Hants, being the last of his branch of the family,) devised it to his very distant-cousin, the present duke, with his other estates, by will, 1751.

without arfenick. I put it into cold water, and presently it fell a boiling and bubbling apace, just as if it had been quick lime; and by degrees the water grew so very hot, that it would quickly have boiled an egge. Now seeing that this chalk is found near the Bath, I conceive it not unlikely that it is this that heats the Bath-water: I know very well that authors generally attribute the heat of baths to sulphur or bitumen. Nevertheless, though it cannot be denied that there is a great quantity of bitumen and sulphur found in these springs, and the cures of scabbiness, ulcers, trembling, the palsy, and the like diseases, doth evince that the Baths are plentifully impregnated with them; yet I doubt whether either of them hath any fermentative power in them to heat water, seeing both of them want acidity, the efficient cause of fermentation; the contrary of which will follow upon the crumbling and incoherent consistence of this chalk. The place where this fassile was found, is an earth porous like a sponge, so that it plainly appears to be (as it were) the flos or excrescence of fermenting minerall, working up out of the earth with those spirits, that cause the fermentation. But what to determine, and say positively in this dark riddle, I know not; and therefore humbly submit it to your judgment, &c." The subject is too voluminous and well known to dwell upon; here then we shall only mention the names of the baths, which are the King's, the Queen's, and the Hot and Cross Bath; the former being the largest and most frequented deserves further notice. In the centre is a large reservoir to restrain the rapid motion of the main source and disperse the waters and heat more equally over the bathing area, also to conduct it through pipes to the pump-room for drinking. The whole has of late years been greatly improved and still continues. The pump-room is an handsome oblong building, where most of the morning you meet much company refreshing nature with a cordial glass, and in the height of the season is so crowded as to demand a larger edifice. From the window we saw the smoaking element, and its handsome recesses for the bathers: also the statue of King Bladud, erected in the year 1699, with the following subscription in copper.

B L A D U D

Son of L U D H U D I B R A S,

Eighth King of the Britons from Brute,

A great Philosopher and Mathematician,

Bred at Athens,

And recorded the first discoverer and founder of these Baths,

863 years before Christ;

that is,

2562 years,

to the present year,

1699.

Having given a short sketch of this great source, let us now proceed to some of its most noble effects; the original city, situate round the centre of this rich circular vale on the borders of the Avon, and encompassed with most beautiful and fertile hills, is too far eclipsed by the variety of admirable streets and squares in the new town, to detain us long; but before we proceed it may not be improper to take notice of the cathedral or abbey, and the noble edifice, guildhall. The former is a noble plain edifice, founded by King Ofric 676, which underwent various changes and reparations till Oliver King, a bishop, began the present structure 1495, occasioned by a dream, according to the authority of Sir John Harrington, as follows. "The bishop having been at Bath imagined as he one night lay meditating in bed, that he saw the Holy Trinity, with angels ascending and descending by a ladder, near to which was a fair olive-tree supporting a crown."

He also thought he heard a voice which said "let an olive establish the crown, and let a king restore the church." This made such a strong impression upon the good prelate, that without delay he ordered the work to be forwarded, but did not live to complete it. On the west front we now plainly see a representation of his vision, under the title, *de sursum est*, "it is from on high." The inside is plain and lofty, from east to west 210 feet, transept 126, but boasts no shew of ancient or splendid monuments. Over the altar is an handsome painting of the Wise Men's offering, given by general Wade, a city member, 1725. The present guildhall, in High-street, is a very elegant modern structure, built by Mr. Thomas Baldwin, architect, about the year 1756. The front exhibits a rustic basement supporting an Ionic superstructure of four columns, and a rich pediment with city arms and other decorations, at each end is a long wing of about 50 feet. The principal story contains a ball room of 80 feet by 40, suitably finished in modern taste. Leaving this part of the city we pass northward to Milford-street very spacious, well paved, and handsome; on the left of which are Queen-street and Wood-street, leading to Queen-square, Parade, &c. These were the first and great improvements of the famous Mr. Wood, to whom this place is much indebted for many of its principal features. From hence up Gay-street leads to that beautiful pile of buildings called the Circus, planned by the same admirable architect about the year 1754, the houses of which are uniformly built round the periphery of a large circle, (only intersected by three streets at equal distances from each other,) and are enriched with all the proper embellishments of the three orders, Doric, Ionic, and Corinthian. The next and most superior range is the Royal Crescent, comprehending a very large elliptic span of upwards of 60 Ionic columns, on a rustic basement, and supporting a beautiful cornice; there is only one window on a floor between each pillar, so that being thus alternate there seems too great a profusion of them; each end displays a very noble house of five windows on a floor, with as many columns alternate and double at the corners, like the centre-house. The verdant ground falls sweetly down towards the river, and the rising country beyond presents as beautiful an amphitheatre as can be viewed. The picturesque eye of Mr. Gilpin could not be supposed to find much amusement among such objects; yet he mentions the Circus as thrown into perspective, from a corner of one of the streets that run into it, and if it be happily enlightened is seen with advantage. The Crescent, he says, is built in a simpler, and greater style of architecture. He further adds, that he has "heard an ingenious friend, colonel Mitford, who is well versed in the theory of the picturesque, speak of a very beautiful and grand effect of light and shade, which he had sometimes observed from an afternoon sun, in a bright winter's day, on this structure. No such effect could happen in summer; as the sun in the same meridian, would be then too high. The elliptical form of the building was the magical source of this exhibition. A grand mass of light, falling on one side of the Crescent, melted imperceptibly into as grand a body of shade on the other; and the effect rose from the opposition and graduation of these extremes. It was still increased by the pillars, and other members of architecture, which beautifully varied and broke both the light and the shade; and gave a wonderful richness to each. The whole, he said, seemed like an effort of nature to set off art; and the eye roved about in astonishment to see a mere mass of regularity become the ground of so enchanting a display of harmony and picturesque effect." The truth of this one may very readily and with pleasure subscribe to, but the same cause which thus gives charms both to the spectator and inhabitant in this season of the year, must be the source of the greatest uneasiness, particularly to the latter, in the summer; and living in one of these centre-houses must be little better than imbibing the heat and glare in the focus of a concave mirror. A very good
row

row of houses are almost finished from the extremity of this Crescent leading up towards Lansdown, where near the summit of the hill is also erecting another new Crescent, parallel with the other, called Lansdown-place, with a large chapel, &c. just below. The materials thrown out of this foundation are some of them very curious and afford much speculation for the naturalist and virtuoso; various fossils and sea-like petrefactions are found here. Betwixt this and the royal Crescent, a most admirable plan is projected for immediate execution, which is to consist of another Circus, several handsome streets, parades, groves, &c. and when finished will render this one of the completest spots in Europe. In short these elegances daily seem to spring up here by enchantment; for on the opposite side, called Beacon hill, we see a third Crescent in great forwardness, the principal story of which displays much Corinthian splendor, one of these columns appearing between each window. A plan is also drawn by Mr. Baldwin for immediately erecting a new set of these kind of buildings in Bathwick meadows, belonging to Mr. Pulteney, on the other side his beautiful bridge. These, together with the above mentioned, are calculated to be no less than 1600 houses. What an unparalleled spectacle will this city be when the present plan is finished. There are numerous other streets and buildings finished within a few years, spacious, and beautiful, which being situated by the side of the hill are remarkably dry and airy. The new assembly rooms, at the east end of the Circus, next demand our notice, and for size and elegance stand unrivalled. They were built by subscription, and cost 20,000l. The above mentioned architect Mr. Wood laid the first stone 1769, and they were opened in 1771. The ball-room is 105 feet by 42 and 42, and most superbly finished. On one side are various ornaments of statues and vases alternate; and on the other, instead of curtains, the windows are filled with similar representations in paint; these were to me quite novel, and by the splendid light of the several elegant chandeliers calculated to have a most charming effect. Innumerable seats are placed in most commodious order, one above another, leaving the middle of the room quite open to the dancers, who are inclosed with ropes like a race ground, so that the *coup d'oeil* is inimitable. Opposite to this is a very handsome tea-room, &c. 60 feet by 42. In the centre of the building is an elegant octagon card room, forty-eight feet diameter; in which are two fine portraits of the late Master of the ceremonies, Captain Wade, painted by Gainsborough, and the present Mr. Tyson, painted by Mr. James, a gentleman artist, which is only just put up. Beyond this is another plain neat card room, 70 feet by 27 and 42. Every outward convenience is in the highest style possible, and the whole together are esteemed the finest suite in Europe. The Octagon Chapel in Milsom-street, opened 1767, is a very commodious and elegant structure, finished after a plan of Mr. Lightholder, architect. The altar piece exhibits a piece of painting by Mr. Hoare, representing the pool of Bethesda. Without affecting the plan of a complete guide, any further minutiae or descriptions of the many other chapels and public buildings would be tedious and foreign to our purpose. We will conclude, therefore, with mentioning that most excellent General Hospital, opened in 1742, which reflects the highest credit on its most laudable and liberal institution, viz. to extend the benefits of Bath waters to those whose indigent circumstances will not allow them the use of these salutary springs. In this asylum all the sick poor of Great Britain and Ireland (those of this town only excepted, on the ground that they might be accommodated at a trifling expence at home) may find every proper assistance given to their disorders, by the help of a physician and other attendants, to administer this water, and order every other necessary medicine, diet, &c. gratis. So that they can with no reason say, "Though an angel hath troubled the waters, alas, Sir, we have no friend to help us in." Various are the gentlemen's seats, &c. within a day's

excursion of this city, so that the admirer of such noble scenes, can seldom want amusement during a few weeks residence; besides the easier access up the surrounding hills than formerly, renders the common exercise of riding more agreeable on the downs of Claverton and Lansdown; whence the invalid, while he is breathing a more pure and healthful air, may enjoy the energetic delights of near or distant prospects; particularly on the latter, which is remarkable for a curious stone monument, erected by George lord Lansdown, (from whence it takes its name) in memory of a battle fought here between the king and parliament forces, 1643, in which his grandfather sir Beville Granville, an excellent person of great activity, interest, and reputation, was slain.

Left Bath September 24th, ascended the vast hill on the Wells road, and during an interval of fair weather, had a sweet view over the whole city. From the summit we deviated about a mile, to inspect the free-stone quarries on Comb-Down, adjoining Prior Park, the beautiful seat of the late worthy Mr. Allen, justly celebrated by Mr. Pope, and afterwards of Bishop Warburton, in right of his wife, who re-marrying the Rev. Stafford Smith, he now enjoys it during her life, after which it goes to an Irish nobleman, Lord Montalt. It has a very elegant front, consisting of a body, two pavilions, and two wings of offices, all united by arcades, in a gentle curve of almost 1000 feet; the order of architecture is Corinthian, on a rustic basement, crowned with a fine balustrade; it has 15 windows on a floor, and the approach to the Corinthian hall exhibits one of the largest and most correct porticos in the kingdom. The external beauties of the grounds, formed into winding walks, gardens, terrace, &c. are esteemed highly finished, and command, reciprocally, the most delightful prospect to Bath. It is much to be lamented, that the traveller cannot be indulged with a more minute inspection of this delightful place, which since the death of the late possessor, (truly styled from his amiable and liberal qualities the genius of Bath) is seldom or ever shewn. We now entered the adjacent cavern of near 300 yards long, which, from the vast quantity that had been got out for many years to supply the city with its beautiful free-stone, we saw wrought out into various spacious and lofty rooms, and regularly supported by able pillars, left for that purpose, that add a pleasing idea of safety to the observing eye. The whole appears neat and agreeable, not much unlike the vaulted apartments in the rustic of a nobleman's mansion. The gentle weepings of the rock in some parts form petrefactions, which, together with a few spars interspersed, reflect the lights of the candles very brilliantly. The former mode of conveying the large blocks directly down the hill to Bath, by machines running on grooves or frames of wood, such as we see in the collieries about Newcastle, is now no more; they carry them in common waggons, to the great detriment of the roads, and inconvenience of travellers. We now proceed as expeditiously as this hilly country would permit. A few small gentlemen's seats situated in rich and pleasant vales, with the village of Red-stoke, were all the objects to amuse till we got to Old Down, a good single house of entertainment, in a bleak situation. After dinner we crossed the extensive range of Mendip hills; Leland calls them Minervary hills, as abounding with lead mines, and in old records they are named Muneduppe, from the many knowls and steep ascents that are visible. The ridges of these hills run in a confused manner, but mostly from east to west, and are of a very unequal height; the soil is barren, and the air cold and foggy. The surface is mostly covered with heath and fern, and affords little or no food but for sheep. This part we now traversed has a better appearance, being considerably thrown into large inclosures, with stone walls excellently formed, and covered with turf, out of which mostly grows a quick-hedge. In these mines any Englishman may freely work, except he has forfeited his right by stealing the ore, or working tools of other miners. For

it is a custom here to leave both their ore and tools all night upon the open hills, or in some slight hut close by : and whoever is found guilty of stealing is condemned to a peculiar punishment, called burning of the hill, which is thus performed : the criminal is shut up in one of these huts surrounded with dry furze, fern or such like combustible matter, which being set fire to in different places, he is left to make his escape as well as he can by bursting this prison with hands and feet, and rushing through the fire ; but he is ever after excluded from working on these hills. The lead found here is said to be of a harder quality than that of other countries, and is mostly used for making bullets and shot. On the western side of these hills is found plenty of lapis calaminaris, or cadmia fossilis or calamine, when calcined and cemented with copper, makes brass. It is also found in Derbyshire, Gloucestershire, Nottinghamshire, and Wales. Other countries too may afford as great abundance, but from the best experiments, ours is found to be of a much superior quality than any that comes from abroad*. Before the reign of Queen Elizabeth, this mineral was held in very little estimation in Great Britain ; and even so late as the latter part of the last century, it was commonly carried away as ballast by the ships which traded to foreign parts, especially to Holland. But its use being now well ascertained in this kingdom, and its sort superior to other nations, there is no fear of losing the advantages of this valuable article. Dr. Watson says that where of late years great quantities have been dug on Bonsale Moor, near Matlock, Derbyshire, a bed of iron stone, about four feet in thickness, lies over the calamine, and the calamine is much mixed, not only with iron-stone, but with cawke, lead ore, and lime-stone. But this does not bear so good a price as that which is gotten about Mendip ; the former being sold for about 40s. and the latter for 65s. or 70s. a ton before dressing ; when thoroughly dressed the Derbyshire calamine may be bought for about six guineas, and the other for 8l. a ton. The strata, or veins of calamine found here, run between the rocks, generally wider than lead ore ; the colour of it as it comes from the mine is of a greenish-grey, or yellow cast, and sometimes contains lead. After having procured a sufficient quantity and sufficiently cleansed its impurities, they commit it to the calcining oven, built much in the same form as that used by bakers, but larger ; on one side is a hearth, divided from the oven itself by a partition open at the top, by which means the flame passes over the calamine and calcines it. The fire is common-pit coal, which is thrown upon the earth and lighted with charcoal. When sufficiently calcined they beat it to powder and make it fit for sale. In making brass the proof of the richness of calamine arises from the quantity taken up by the copper which at the greatest degree is about one third. The method of making brass with calamine, Dr. Watson thus describes. Copper in tin plates, or which is better, copper reduced (by being poured, when melted, into water) into grains of the size of large shot is mixed with calamine and charcoal, both in powder, and exposed in a melting-pot, for several hours, to a fire not quite strong enough to melt the copper, but sufficient for uniting the metallic earth of the calamine to the phlogiston of the coal ; this union forms a metallic substance which penetrates the copper contiguous to it, changing its colour from red to yellow, and augmenting its weight in a great proportion. At most of our English brass works they use 45 pound of copper to 60 of calamine for making ingot brass, and they seldom obtain less than 60 or more than 70 pound of brass. When they make brass for the purpose of pans or kettles, and the drawing of wire, they use calamine of the finest sort, and in a greater proportion, generally 56 pound of calamine to 34 of copper. The varieties in the colour, malleability, and ductility of brass, proceed

* Phil. Transactions, 196. p. 672.

from the quantity of the calomel imbibed by the copper. Though we have always had this commodity, yet brass has not been made long before the commencement of the present century. Dr. Watson is of opinion that the beginning of the brass manufactory in England may be properly referred to the policy of Queen Elizabeth, who invited into the kingdom various persons from Germany, who were well skilled in metallurgy and mining. About the year 1650, one Demetrius, a German, set up a brass work in Surry, at the expence of 6000*l.* and above 8000 men are said to have been employed in the brass manufactories established in Nottinghamshire and near London. Though this art afterwards went to decay, yet about the beginning of the present century it revived, and is now established amongst us in a very great extent, so that we annually export large quantities of manufactured brass to most parts of the world. But the value of calamine has been much raised by the ingenious D. Isaac Lawfon, who discovered it to be the true mine of zinc, but died before he made any advantage of his discovery*. Dr. Price and others are of the same opinion about the discovery of zinc; but Dr. Watson places him second in this discovery, and says that Henckel was the first person in Europe who procured zinc from calamine†. Zinc in colour is not unlike lead; is hard and sonorous and malleable in a small degree; it does not melt so easily as either tin or lead, but more easily than silver or copper. The filings of zinc are of great use in fire-works, owing to its singular combustion. The aeronauts are also much indebted to this metallic substance for the inflammable air it yields by solution in the acids of vitriol and of sea salt. Zinc and copper when melted together in different proportions, constitute what are called pinchbecks, &c. of different yellow colours. Besides these there are many other metallic mixtures which copper enters as the principal ingredient; the most remarkable are gun-metal, bell-metal, pot-metal, and speculum-metal. What is commonly called brass cannon does not contain the least of that metal in its composition, but consists of copper and tin. At Woolwich, the only foundry for this sort of cannon in England, they seldom use more than twelve or less than ten parts of tin to every 100 of copper, according to its purity, and the finest copper requires the most tin. This metallic mixture is sold before casting, for 75*l.* a ton, and government pays for casting it 60*l.* a ton. The statuary metal of the ancients, Pliny says, was composed in the following manner, "They first melted a quantity of copper; into which they put a third of its weight of old copper, which had been long in use; to every 100 weight of this mixture, they added 12½*lb.* of a mixture composed of equal parts of lead and tin." Bell-metal also consists of tin and copper, but their proportions are variously used. Less of tin is generally used for making church-bells than clock-bells, and a little zinc is added for those of repeating watches, and other small bells. It is very remarkable that the bulk of the mixture of copper and tin is a quarter less than the sum of the bulks of the two component parts, while their weights remain the same: take two balls of copper and two of pure tin, of the same form and quantity, then melt the former into one, to which add the tin ones, and pour out the mixture melted into their former moulds, and there will scarce come forth three balls, the weight of the four being reserved. Pot-metal is made of copper and lead, the lead being one fourth or one fifth the weight of the copper. Speculas or glass mirrors are made of copper and tin; and it is found by experiment that 14 ounces and a half of grain† tin, and 2*lb.*

* Campbell's Survey of Brit. vol. 2d, p. 35.

† See the edition of Henckel's works, published at Paris, 1760, vol. 2d, p. 494.

‡ "Grain tin (of which we shall speak more fully in Cornwall) is worth 10 or 12 shillings per 100 more than mine tin, because it is melted from a pure mineral by a charcoal fire; whereas mine tin is usually corrupted with mundick and other minerals, and is always melted with a bituminous fire, which communicates a harsh, sulphureous, injurious quality to the metal." — Pryce Min. Cornu. p. 137.

of copper make the best composition: and to avoid its being porous the tin should be added to the melted copper, and this mass afterwards be remelted*. Pliny says, that the best specula were anciently made at Brunducium of copper and tin.

We now very soon approached the ancient city of Wells, situate at the foot of Mendip hills, in a stony soil and full of springs, whence it has its name. Leland says, "the chiefest spring is called Andres Welles, and riseth on a meadow plot not far above the east end of the cathedral church." He also speaketh of the town as large and built mostly of stone, particularly the market place and conduit, the work of Thomas Beckington, some time bishop of Bath. But the buildings most famous are the cathedral and Bishop's palace surrounded with a foss, which was a castle belonging to sir John Gates about the time of Edward VI. The west front of the cathedral has ever been admired for its complete Gothic display of imagery, superior to any other of the kind, and contains almost as much work as the inner part of this or any other church, yet there is a vast heaviness in the towers for want of pinnacles. It was built on the site of the original one (founded by King Ina) by Robert de Lewis and Joseline de Welles. It was made a see in the time of Edward the Elder. William the Conqueror gave the city of Bath to God, St. Peter, and John bishop of Wells to augment his episcopal seat; upon which he removed his see to Bath, being the superior place. This soon raised a controversy between the two cities about the seat and election of their bishop; but in the reign of King Stephen it was put a stop to by Robert, bishop of Wells, who ordained that in future the titles should be united; and the bishop be chosen by an equal number of canons of each church. The inside from east to west is about 300 feet; transept 122, which answers to the west front, and 70 high, ornamented in a singular manner with inverted arches. The choir is handsome, and the throne ornamented with a rich perspective of a Spanish church. The painted glass on the east window is in good preservation. The chapter-house is a very beautiful octagon, turned upon a rich Gothic pillar in the centre. The monuments are not numerous, a few of the monks from Glaffenbury abbey, one in particular of friar Milton; from whence also was brought a very curious German clock, with the sun, moon, &c. moving in their order, over which is the representation of a tournament by the same machinery; a figure of a man strikes the hours and quarters with his hands and feet; these are placed in the north great transept. No directory or small account of this cathedral, tombs, &c. has yet been published, but one is now in hand by the person who attends.

In the morning early, accompanied by heavy showers, we went about three miles of bad and intricate road to see the famous cavern, called Okey-hole, under Mendip hills, one of the greatest natural curiosities in this island. Our approach to it was by a paper-mill, on the stream which flows from this cavity. Mr. Tudway, member of parliament for Wells, is the proprietor, and lets it to a person on the spot for 10l. per annum. Of this as many idle stories (says Camden) have been related by the inhabitants hereabouts, as the Italians have of their Sibyl's cave in the Apennine mountains. But laying aside these silly tales about the old witch; let us consider and examine what it really appears, some great convulsion of nature. The person who attends, led us in through a small orifice about six feet high, composed of lime and pier-stone, mixed with spar: after a few yards the cave began to expand, and the lofty roof, hung with spar, shone like diamonds by the light of our candles; we passed two vast lumps of petrification, formed by the drippings of the rock on the floor,

* Phil. Transactions 1777. p. 296. For a more minute account of these subjects, see Watson's Chem. vol. iv. Essay 1 and 3.

which

which resembled a pillar of salt, and a lion couchant: we now descended about 14 steps, called Hell-ladder, the only appearance of art through the whole, hewn down the slippery rock for the convenience of visitors; at the bottom we saw what is fancied this old witch's footstep, and her porter's tomb; the casual swells of petrification. We now entered what is called the kitchen, about 150 yards from the first mouth; this is formed very spacious and circular, with a curious vaulted roof, near fifty feet high; on one side flows the river, in some places deep, and contains large trout and eels. This is supposed to run from some boggy lands in the hills above. On the opposite side of this vast apartment, which is near seventy yards over, is what they call a brewhouse, and in a basin of water is a mass of petrification, resembling much the froth on wort: close adjoining is the boiler and furnace, and near them sits the old hag herself, as watching her domestic concerns. In another part lies an exact picture of some animal's kidney, which they call a bullock's; above this hangs great part of a hare, made ready for the spit, the back being a very strong resemblance; in another part is what they name a flitch of bacon. All these, with thousand others, are immense petrifications from the weepings of the rocks; a single drop congealing on the floor, thus becomes in time like globes of vast circumference. To the left of this is another apartment called the hall, which though not so spacious is very lofty; from the ground to the centre of the roof, gradually coved, is about 100 feet. Next we enter the parlour, which is an oval of about 60 feet by 40, but very low in comparison with the others; on one side is a small hole through which a dog is said to have passed betwixt this and Cheddar Cliffs, with the loss of his hair only, as he explored this wonderful passage of five miles in quest of some vermin. We now arrived at the extremity, 300 yards from our entrance, the river here preventing any further passage; though our guide has at low water gone many yards further, and has been able to throw stones beyond, till finally impeded by the depth of the river. Returning we admired the various stalactites, petrifications, and spars, in their various gradations; our eyes being longer accustomed to this imperfect light we could now distinguish better,

———“And see where it is hung
 With forms so various, that no power of art,
 The pencil or the pen, may trace the scene!
 Here glittering turrets rise, upbearing high
 (Fantastic misarrangement) on the roof
 Large growth of what may seem the sparkling trees
 And shrubs of fairy land. The chrysal drops
 That trickle down the branches, fast congeal'd
 Shoot into pillars of pellucid length,
 And prop the pile they but adorned before.
 Here grotto within grotto———
 ———There imbos'd and fretted wild
 The growing wonder takes a thousand shapes
 Capricious, in which fancy seeks in vain
 The likeness of some object seen before.
 Thus nature works as if to mock at art,
 And in defiance of her rival pow'rs;
 By these fortuitous and random strokes
 Performing such inimitable feats
 As she with all her rules can never reach*.”

Whatever has been the origin of this wonderful place, it is extremely worth the traveller's notice, and if as much known as Castleton in Derbyshire, and set off with

* Cowper's Task, book 5th, page 186.

proper illuminations, a boat, music, &c. no doubt would be greatly resorted to. About five miles north west of this, near the small town of Cheddar, remarkable for rich and large cheese, are large cliffs of the same name, and a stupendous chasm, quite through the body of the adjacent mountain, as if split asunder by some violent convulsion of nature, which exhibits an awful appearance to strangers. Near the entrance is a remarkable spring of water, rising in a perpendicular direction from the rocky basis of the hill; and so large and rapid is its stream, that it turns a mill within a few yards of its source, and afterwards falls into the river Ax. Near to this is another curious cavern, the entrance of which is by an ascent of about 15 fathoms, among the rocks. Neither this nor Okey-hole, have any communication with the mines of Mendip; though it is well known, that in general among lead mines, there are caverns, which are various both as to their nature and situation.

Highly gratified by this short excursion, we returned to breakfast at Wells, and then pursued our course to Glastonbury along a pleasant flat, with a few abrupt hills rising around, and passed over East Sedgemore, a green marsh of vast extent. We now ascended the hill and came upon Glastonbury, situate on the other side, with the vast Torr hanging almost over it; upon the narrow summit of which the abbot of this ancient place erected a church of good stone; the tower still remains, and is an excellent land-mark for sailors. This chapel, which was dedicated to St. Michael, was overthrown by an earthquake, 1275. Glastonbury derives its origin (says Camden) from Joseph of Arimathea, the same who buried Christ's body; who is said to have come over here, and had this ground granted by king Arviragus, whereupon he established an holy community, and with his companions is said to have been buried here; from hence it was called, "the first ground of God, and of the Saints in England; the burying place of the Saints, the Mother of the Saints, &c." After this ancient fabric was worn out by time, King Ina, 691, built a stately church, dedicated to Christ, St. Peter, and St. Paul. Afterwards Dunstan, a man of great wit, instituted a new order of Benedictine monks, who, by the bounty of good and pious princes, got so much wealth, as even exceeded that of kings. After they had reigned in this affluence above 600 years, they were driven out by Henry VIII., and the monastery demolished. The lands and revenues when the king took possession of them, according to Speed, were valued at 3508l. 13s. 4d. Dugdale, 3331l. 7s. 4d. But upon a subsequent survey by Mr. Pollard and Mr. Moyle, they were found to amount to 4085l. 6s. 8d. The site was granted, 1st Edward VI., to Edward duke of Somerset; and 1st of Queen Elizabeth to sir Peter Carew. As we passed down the street we saw the Abbot's Inn, (now the George) a curious relic of antiquity, for the use of pilgrims, having the arms of the Saxon kings over the gate. We visited the abbey ruins, which shew great marks of their former magnificence; nothing remains entire but the kitchen, a very judicious piece of architecture, an octagon, whose roof terminates in a point; four of the opposite sides contain large fire-places and chimnies. Mr. Grosse's view of these ruins, taken 1756, is very accurate and beautiful.

It is a matter of some astonishment that the inhabitants should be so blind to their own interest as to pull down for their own private use what would have made some recompence for the loss of these former revenues spent among them, by bringing to the town a great concourse of people to admire its mouldering fabric. Nor is the great owner, lord Essex, less culpable for suffering it. In the adjacent orchard we were delighted to see the vast abundance of apples in full perfection, and to partake of their peculiar flavour. Here stands too the decayed trunk of the famous Hawthorn,

so well known by the name of the Glassenbury thorn, and its peculiar property of blowing at Christmas: several of its children are growing in full perfection about this place to hand down its glories to posterity; the fabulous report of its always shewing this fine bloom on old Christmas day in particular I found laughed at by the people here themselves; but all agree in its blowing about that time and most of the winter, which may be proved by a seedling or graft in any part of the world. This tree is certainly very curious in this country; but it is very common in the Levant and Asia Minor. It differs, says Mr. Miller, from our common hawthorn by putting out its leaves very early in the spring, and flowering twice a-year.

Ascending the hill beyond, we rode on a fine terrace, commanding a sweet view of the whole town, its two excellent churches, and lofty tower to the right; beyond, the verdant plains of Sedgemore, and on this side two others equally large, which all unite below in one channel westward to the æstuary of Uzella, while to the north-east the lofty bounds of Mendip tower amidst the sky. Hence we pass through the village of Street, and see on our right Sharpham park, the seat of judge Gould, a native of Wells, as was the late baron Burland.

Dine at Piper's inn, a good single house; in the garden we got, from a very fine tree, twelve years old, a branch of Glassenbury thorn, full of bloom and fruit, September 25th, which is now deemed a great rarity, for the colder the weather the more flourishing this extraordinary tree appears. In the evening we enjoyed a most glorious drive for several miles on the sweetest terrace and finest road imaginable; on our left, the verdant vale of King's Sedgemore*, where the forces of James II defeated the duke of Monmouth, encompassed with noble hills, and on our right an extensive marsh, called Brent Marsh, with Brent Knowl, backed by the great range of Mendip; in front, the Bristol channel, evidently retreated, by the gradual change of ages, from these former æstuaries. In this part of the sea are plainly visible the Holmes, and the country about Glamorganshire beyond.

Though the general aspect of this extensive county is equally marked with the bountiful hand of Providence, and the assiduous tillage of the husbandman, yet there are very prodigious tracts of land, which, though not absolutely useless, yet there is no question but by proper management might be rendered infinitely more valuable. Sedgemore, the fine plain we now beheld, is one of the most considerable, and easy to be cultivated, being greatly enriched by a sea mud, which naturally produces the sweetest verdure imaginable. About ten years ago a petition was laid before the parliament for inclosing it, which was then opposed and thrown out of the house; being at that time surveyed, it was found to contain 22,000 acres, with not more than 18 inches difference in the whole level. The greatest right of common belonged to lord Bolingbroke and lord Ilchester. The former I was told sold his right of 400 acres for the inadequate sum of 500l.; what a fortune must such a speculative bargain prove upon an immediate inclosure, which is now likely to take place. The latter has a very considerable right, as lord of the manor of Somerton. There are many other spacious tracts which fall under the same description of being reputed a discredit to so fine a country, (viz.) Brent Marsh, Weadmore, Gedneymore, Cannington-fens, &c. which if thoroughly drained, might become as fertile and pleasant as the rest of the country. Though there are the strongest proofs of the sea once being in full possession of these moors, not only from their form and appearance, but also the names of several villages, Western-sea, Middle-sea, &c. yet their existence may be traced as high, at least with equal certainty, as any thing in history. It was in them the

* See forward for this description, at Lyme, in Dorsetshire.

Cangi took shelter from the Romans, who have left indubitable proofs of their becoming masters of this country, "as in the hundreds of Cannington and Cannings in Wincaunton, which is sometimes called Cangton; and Kaingsham, as much as to say the mansion of the Cangi*." The Britons in these parts made their last efforts against the Saxons; and the body of King Arthur was buried at Glassenbury, which Camden thus mentions as abridged from the account of Giraldus Cambrensis; "when Henry II, king of England, had learned from the songs of the British bards that Arthur, the most noble hero of the Britains, whose valor had so discomfited the Saxon forces, was buried at Glassenbury between two pyramids, he ordered search to be made for the body; and they had scarce dug seven foot deep, when they light upon a crossed-stone, or a stone in the back part whereof was fastened a rude leaden cross, of good breadth. This being drawn out, appeared to have an inscription upon it; and under it almost nine foot deep, they found a coffin made of hollowed oak, wherein were deposited the bones of the famous Arthur †." To these places of refuge, the Saxons in their turn also fled, when the fury of the pagan Danes had converted the greatest part of the kingdom into a desert; and at the conflux of the Thone and Parret, is a river island, formerly called Athelingey, or the Island of Nobles, now Athelney, famous in history for being the spot where king Alfred found an asylum from those barbarians; which place, at that time, was made inaccessible by standing pools and inundations. Camden's favourite author, Malmesbury, says, "It had formerly been a bridge between two towers, which were built by King Alfred; also a very large set of alders, full of goats and deer; but the firm ground not above two acres broad. Upon this he built a monastery, the whole structure whereof is supported by four posts fastened in the ground, with four arched chancels round it." Here the prince and his followers, those few Saxon lords who had the courage and loyalty to adhere to their sovereign in his distresses, had nothing to subsist upon during their concealment, except a few fish, which they caught and dressed in the best manner they could; only sometimes, we are told, the king went to the cottage of a poor peasant, who treated him with great kindness; for which Alfred afterwards gave him a proper education, and bestowed on him the bishopric of Winchester. Here too he is said to have planned that excellent constitution, that system of mild obedience, or rather of rational liberty, which as the first of blessings, was derived to us from one of the wisest and best of men ‡. A remarkable curiosity was found some years since, (says Dr. Gibson) near Athelney, belonging formerly to King Alfred, and lost by him, (in all probability) when he absconded to this place, after he was defeated by the Danes. This excellent edition of Camden §, has given three drawings of it, a front, back, and side view. That King Alfred caused it to be made, is plain from these words, inscribed round the margin in Saxon characters, "Alfred commanded me to be made." And it is the opinion of a very learned person, Dr. Hickes ||, that the occasion of it was the vision of St. Cuthbert, which William of Malmesbury speaks of, appearing to him and his mother the same night, after he had been beaten by the Danes, and retired into Athelney, and assuring him that he should be a great king. In memory whereof we may well suppose that the image upon it is St. Cuthbert, (to whose merit he was wont to ascribe his future successes over the Danes;) and not

* Camden, Gibson's edit. vol. i. page 83.

† For a drawing of the cross and inscription, see Camden, Gibson's edit. vol. i. page 80. See also Warton's beautiful poem, called "the Grave of King Arthur."

‡ Chron. Saxon, page 85, and sir John Spelman's Life of King Alfred the Great, page 165.

§ In his second edition, vol. i. page 75.

|| In the Philosophical Transactions, No. 260.

only so, but being plainly made, on purpose to hang on a string, it is very probable that he constantly wore it, in honor to this his tutelar saint.

However useless these lands are in their present state, they were not so formerly, but were thus resorted to in times of trouble, as a kind of natural fortifications. Afterwards, when such retreats were not necessary, in order to reclaim these wild moors and marshes, we find many convents or religious houses erected amongst them, viz. Michelney, or Muchelney, another river-island formed by the conflux of Ivel and Parret; this, according to most writers, was built by King Athelstan, and remained to the general dissolution. In Burton's catalogue the revenues are valued at 498l. 16s. 3d. That also, which we have just described, in Athelney, founded by King Alfred for Benedictine monks; but the most flourishing and conspicuous in these parts, which answers to the purpose we are speaking, was Glastonbury, minutely described above. As instances of extensive and spirited works raised and maintained for public utility, by the members of this religious body, the following are sufficiently striking. One abbot ran a causeway of stone and gravel eight miles over the morafs, extending from Somerton to Bridgewater, which is still called Graylock's Fosse*. Another abbot, at immense expence, erected that lofty fabrick, called the Torr, on the vast hill above Glastonbury, which plainly shews to what end it was built, being a most useful sea-mark. A third abbot raised the great sluice, by which a large district about Brentmarsh, &c. is preserved from the rude havock of the waters, by means of a large bank and valve†. After the dissolution of these monasteries, many efforts were made for the preservation and further improvements of these lands. In the reign of James I. a scheme was formed for draining the moors, but was never put into execution; and yet several of those ingenious writers just quoted, clearly shew it is not impracticable. On the contrary, another candid and judicious author has shewn how easily and at what a small expence it may be done‡. That it may speedily be undertaken, must be the ardent wish of every admirer of his country and its welfare.

Descending into the flat soon brings us to the ancient town and port of Bridgewater, situate on the river Parret, a populous and busy place, so named by some from its bridge and water, but more likely from Burgh-Walter, so styled in ancient charters, and probably belonged to Walter de Doway a soldier under William the Conqueror. This town was regularly fortified in the civil wars, and sustained several sieges. The tide at the bridge, which is necessarily strong, rises with great impetuosity, sometimes five fathoms, to the damage and destruction of unguarded vessels. This sudden rage is called the boar, and is frequent in the rivers of this channel, particularly the Severn. It is a corporate town, sending two members to parliament. Henry VIIIth created Henry lord Daubeney, earl of Bridgewater, who dying without issue male, this title was extinct till James Ist conferred it upon John Egerton, son of the great chancellor; hence it was handed down in the same line and raised to the present title of duke. This town had the honour too of giving birth to the famous admiral Blake, who, under the commonwealth, so much exalted the glory of the English maritime power. In the church is a fine altar-piece of our Saviour taken from the cross, painted by Guido, and a present, which cost 700l. from the late Mr. Powlet, uncle to the present earl, of Hinton St. George, in this county.

September 26. We now deviated from the great road four miles to Enmore Castle, the noble seat of lord Egmont, built by the father of the present owner. The family of

* Dr. Stukeley's Itin. Curios. p. 145, &c. *Campbell's Survey*.

† Leland, vol. ii. fol. 42; and Sir William Dugdale's History of Embanking and Draining, p. 104, &c.

‡ Dr. Tucker's Elements of Commerce. *Campbell*.

Mallets had a seat here formerly, of whom Thomas Mallet was sheriff of this county in the 18th of Queen Elizabeth. John Mallet was the last heir male of this family, and left one daughter Elizabeth, who marrying to John Wilmot, the last lord Rochester, (mentioned before as born at Dicheley) carried this great estate into that family. She had only three daughters, among whom, for want of an heir male, the estates of both families were divided. This castle is the true representation of those ancient habitations, which, amid the rivalry, animosities, and dangers of feudal times, were the impregnable protection of every potent baron before the invention of gunpowder and the use of artillery. It is surrounded by a deep foss, which we cross over by a draw-bridge, into the court, a handsome and spacious quadrangle, leading to the hall, a well adapted room, surrounded with a large gallery; the walls adorned with family busts and coats of arms; painted chairs of the same, &c. We ascended into the upper apartments by a curious geometric staircase; these consist of a good breakfast-room; an armoury, large, and handsomely hung with most of the proper implements of war. Dining-room, about 48 by 27, lofty and well furnished. Over the chimney is a painting of Charles the First on a white horse, with a page attendant; King William and Queen Mary in coronation robes. An unintelligent guide and want of a catalogue, must apologize for our deficiency in the names of masters, &c. Library, an excellent appropriated room of about 56 feet by 30. Pass a suite of bed apartments in which we saw many paintings; an old one very striking, of Christ taken from the cross, with Mary, &c. hanging very expressively over the body. Over the gate-way is a pleasant plain room, which the family are very fond of, commanding a charming prospect of the country north-west, with the lofty object of Brent Knoll rising out of the flat, and the distant hills beyond. Drawing-room, a moderate size, hung with fine tapestry. Saloon very superb, about 56 by 27 and 36, to the bow-window; tapestry of battles, Darius' queen taken captive, &c. Anti-room, over the chimney an excellent old painting of three foxes growling over their prey: and two beautiful birds-eye views of St. Germain and Fontainebleau. Long Gallery, about 70 feet by 27, lofty and coved ceiling. The walls hung with numerous family portraits, some very ancient; particularly one on board, of Margaret Beauchamp, dutchess of Somerset, living in the 5th of Edward IV. grandmother to Henry VIIIth, and great grandmother to Alice St. John, wife of Henry Parker, lord Morley, Hangham and Rhie, ancestor to Catherina Parker, countess of Egmont; Elizabeth Calthorpe, daughter of Sir Philip, by Amata Boleyn, sister to Queen Anne, and aunt to Elizabeth. Alice, daughter of John Sherman, Com. Somerset, and wife to Richard Percival, esq. 1599. Many others at different periods too tedious to transcribe.

From hence we crossed into the Taunton road, passing a pleasant park and seat belonging to lady Tynte; which is remarkable for a fine aviary, and beautiful pleasure grounds. The small farms and cottages are in this neighbourhood surrounded with plenteous orchards. The golden pippin gathered as we drove along, moistened our palates with delicious flavour. We came now into the Taunton road, at the village of North Petherton, ornamented with a fine Gothic tower, so frequent in the west. A few miles further, on our right, stands a pleasant square house at Wowert, rebuilt by Mr. Sandford, having been destroyed by fire about four years ago. Just beyond is a large stone edifice, the seat of Mr. Brickdale, situate near the parish church, which, together with the parsonage, appears too crowded. For want of timely information we omitted visiting the seat of colonel Bampfylde, only two miles to the right of Taunton, which would have been the nearest way from Enmore castle and lady Tynte's. This ingenious gentleman has adorned his gardens with a richness of scenery peculiar

to themselves, having also an uncommonly fine water-fall. His house displays a good collection of paintings, many of which are by his own admired pencil.

Taunton is a large wealthy town, situate on the river Tone (whence named,) and surrounded with that rich tract of land, vulgarly called Taunton Dean; beautified with green meadows and delightful orchards, &c. the land upon an average, 40s. per acre. The town has a remarkably spacious and neat market-place, with excellent modern buildings for that purpose. Here are two parish churches, one a very beautiful ancient Gothic tower, to which Sir Benjamin Hammet, member of parliament, was now opening, and building a good street to be called Hammet. The manufacture here is chiefly woollen, and not so flourishing as formerly. Camden calls it "one of the eyes of this county." Here Ina, King of the West Saxons, erected a castle which Desburga his wife levelled with the ground, after she had driven Eadbrith, king of the East Saxons, out of it, who had got possession, and made it a kind of curb to a conquered country. In the reign of Edward the Confessor, according to domeſday-book, "it gelded for 54 hides, had 63 burghers, and was held by the bishop of Winchester, whose pleadings were here kept thrice a year. These customs belong to Taunton; burgherſte, robbers, breach of the peace, hannifare, pence of the hundred, and St. Peter's pence, to hold thrice a year the bishop's pleadings without admonition, to go into the army with the bishop's men." History of later date can likewise shew it was one of the most considerable places in the county, and that it had also its share of havock and distress in most civil disturbances. In the reign of Henry VII. its castle was twice taken by the rebels, under Perkin Warbeck. It remained a place of great strength till the civil wars in the last century, when the parliament got possession of it, but was afterwards driven out by the marquis of Hertford. They royalists did not long enjoy this victory; for it was soon after taken by colonel Blake. This was also one of the most forward places in opposing the measures of Charles Iſt, which brought on it the filial revenge of Charles II. who, at the restoration, demolished the castle, and took away their charter of incorporation. In this situation it remained 17 years, under the mere government of portrieves and constables, but at length bishop Mew obtained a new charter from the offended king, and it is now governed by a mayor, recorder, two aldermen, 24 capital burgesſes, &c. After so respectable a body being found to constitute this corporation, it appears very singular and almost contradictory, that the members of parliament should be chosen by electors of so strange a qualification as the following, viz. all pot-wabblers, or those who dress their own victuals, are entitled to vote, for which purpose they take care to have a fire lighted in the street some time before the election, where they dress their victuals publickly, that their votes may not be called in question. There was formerly, without the east gate of the town, a priory for black canons, founded by William Giffard, bishop of Winchester, in the reign of Henry I. which, at the dissolution of religious houses, was valued at 286l. 8s. 10d. *per annum*. In 1685, when the duke of Monmouth landed in the west of England, he established his headquarters here, and was proclaimed king,* &c.

In the evening we proceeded to Wellington, near which we passed a deer park, well wooded, &c. in which stands the seat of Sir Thomas Gurlston. Wellington is a small market town, which, though employed in manufactures, wears the aspect of much poverty, and is only remarkable for having been the residence and burial place of lord chief justice Popham, in the reigns of Queen Elizabeth and James I.

* See forward the particulars described in the account of Lyme in Dorsetshire.

Early next morning the sun's bright beams gave a more serene aspect to the sky, and we journeyed on the next stage to Columpton, situate on the river Columb; the general tenor of the country was rich, hilly, and extensive. About half way near the bleak hill of Maiden-down, we pass the division of the two counties and enter Devon north-east. Its name signifies what it really is, a heap of vallies and hills. The soil is various, the hills in these parts naturally barren, and the lower grounds fruitful, but the whole much improved by manure. The air is mild and healthful in the latter, but very sharp on the former, which we now felt; and arrived at Columpton well prepared to enjoy a comfortable breakfast. This is a larger and better market town than the last, and displays more of the woollen manufacture; King Alfred bequeathed it to his youngest son Ethelward, with other lands in this county, Somersetshire, and Hants.

From hence to Exeter we passed much hilly ground and through a very picturesque village of moss-clad houses, called Bradninch. Next saw on our right, Sir Thomas Ackland's at Columb-John, a very neat white mansion, beautifully situated under a wood-crowned knoll, surrounded with a park of deer, and a fine vale in front, graced with the pleasing objects of a lofty village tower, and distant hills. From the summit of Stock-hill, two miles from Exeter, you have a glorious circular prospect, the ground gradually falling every way from this centre into a deep and beautiful vale, enriched with various seats, villages, and the fair city; the vast circumference rising again to a noble range of verdant mountains, heaped and intersected in most variegated order; while on their distant tops the sea-mark towers distinguish its frontier country, and the river Ex opening towards the south winds broadly to the channel. The common traffic and business of this county is mostly done by horses with panniers and crooks; the former are well known every where, but the latter are peculiar to the west, and are simply constructed, with four bent heavy sticks in the shape of panniers, but the ends awkwardly projecting above the rider's head; with these they carry large loads of hay or garden vegetables. The country people ride in a prodigious large boot of wood and leather hung instead of stirrup to the horse's side, and half open, which they call gambades. Query whether Bunbury did not from hence take the idea of his burlesque horsemanship of Geoffrey Gambado?

The city of Exeter and capital of this county is situated on a gradual descent on the east side of the river Ex, whence it derives its name, according to an old verse of Alexander Neckham, once prior of St. Nicholas.

*Exoniæ famâ celeberrimus Iscia nomen
Præbuit.* —————

The Ex, a river of great fame
To Exeter has given name.

It was called by the Britons Pen Caer and Caer-Isk, (i. e.) a city on the river Isc; the Isca of Ptolemy; the Isca-Danmoniorum in the Itinerary of Antonine; by the Saxons Exan-cester, and now abbreviated to Exeter.

Before we begin to describe this city in its present state, it may not be improper to take some notice of its antiquity, and also the various changes it has undergone at different periods. When Isca first fell under the Roman jurisdiction is not clearly ascertained. Camden thinks it was not built so early, as to have been conquered by Vespasian, which Geoffry of Monmouth asserts. Yet in the time of the Antonines it was probably of considerable note; for Antoninus continues his Itinerary to this city, and

no further. Upon the Saxons invading Britain, such as refused to submit fled either beyond the Severn, or to the ancient Danmonii, Devonshire and Cornwall; where they formed a kingdom, which was not subdued till about 400 years after. During the reign of Alfred, the Britons in this county were so overcome as to join in assisting that hero, when he drove the Danes from Exeter: but in 875 they returned with great violence, plundered and set fire to the city. This however was a trifling calamity to what it suffered in 1003, (being betrayed by one Hugh, a Norman, the governour :) when it was laid level from the east to the west gate, and the whole inhabitants massacred in the most cruel manner, by Sueno, the Dane, and his horrid barbarians. It had scarce time to recruit when William the Conqueror took possession of it, after a close siege and obstinate resistance. At that time (according to the survey) "the king had in this city 300 houses: it paid 15 pounds a year, 48 houses were destroyed after the king came into England." After this it withstood three violent sieges, first by Hugh Courtney, earl of Devon, in the civil war between the houses of York and Lancaster. Again, Perkin Warbeck, declaring himself to be Richard duke of York, second son of King Edward IVth, violently attacked this city, but the people believing him to be an impostor, defended themselves with great bravery, till Edward Courtney raised an army and relieved them. For this valiant opposition, Henry VIIth, with an unusual effort of his nature, paid the citizens a visit, bestowed on them great commendations, and left them his sword he then wore, to be carried before the mayor on public occasions, and also gave them a cap of maintenance. He lodged at the treasurer's house in the Close, and stayed there several days. A third siege happened in 1549, when the seditious Cornish rose in opposition to the new religion in the reign of Edward VI. but the inhabitants, though almost reduced to famine, continued loyal, till lord Russel arrived with an army and obtained such a victory over the rebels, that the 6th of August was afterwards annually observed as a day of thanksgiving, and the king rewarded them with the rich manor of Ex-Island.

On the highest part of the hill on which this city is built, and on the north-east extremity, stands the remains of Rougemont castle, so called from the redness of the soil. Grafton, in his chronicle, says, it was the work of Julius Cæsar; afterwards the seat of several Saxon Kings, and since of the dukes of Cornwall. Within the castle walls a chapel was built, by the lady Elizabeth de Fortibus, countess of Devon, who endowed it with lands, called the Prebends of Hays and Catton, for the payment of certain weekly services therein to be performed. This town and castle held out some time against the Conqueror; but a part of the walls falling down, it was surrendered at discretion. William contented himself with only altering the gates of the castle, as a mark of its being subdued; at the same time he either rebuilt or much repaired the whole edifice, and bestowed it on Baldwin de Brionno, husband of Albreda, his niece, whose descendants by the female line enjoyed it, together with the office of the sheriff of Devon, which seems to have been annexed to it, till the 14th of Henry III. *anno* 1230; when that prince resuming into his own hands sundry castles and forts in this realm, dispossessed Robert de Courtney, in whose family it had been for three descents. In the reign of Henry IV. John Holland, duke of Exeter, had a fine mansion within the castle, of which no traces are remaining, *Anno* 1413, the city being visited by King Richard III. he was, during his stay, nobly entertained by the corporation. On seeing the castle, he commended it highly, both for strength and beauty of its situation; but hearing it was named Rougemont, which from the similitude of the sound, mistaking for Richmond, he suddenly grew sad; saying, that the end of his days approached; a prophecy having declared he should not long survive the sight of Richmond. In the

year 1588, at the lent assizes held here, an infectious distemper, brought by some Portuguese prisoners of war, confined in the castle, destroyed sir John Chichester, the judge; eight justices; eleven out of the twelve, impannelled jurors; with divers other persons assembled on this occasion. In 1655, John Penruddock and Hugh Grove, both Wiltshire gentlemen, having joined in an unsuccessful attempt, in favour of Charles II., were here beheaded; when many of inferior rank were hanged at Havitree gallows. The ruin represented in Mr. Grose's view 1768, which is the entrance into the castle yard, was part of the exterior walls or out-works; these enclose a considerable space, in shape somewhat like a rhombus, with its angles rounded off; they were defended by four towers, two on the west, and two on the east side. Its terrace and walls afford a delightful prospect of the city and surrounding country.

The streets and buildings in general wear the venerable aspect of antiquity. The principal street and thoroughfare is very long and spacious, and to the west very much improved by an elegant bridge of three large arches over the river, and numerous small ones continued up the street to bring it to a level, which has been finished about ten or twelve years, and cost near 20,000*l*. In the east part stands the cathedral originally a monastery, founded by King Athelstan for Benedictine monks, and made an episcopal see by Edward the Confessor, the building was carried on by Leofric, and various have been the after additions for almost 400 years, and yet the uniformity is so congruous as to appear like the workmanship of one architect. But we cannot speak of the external appearance in any other light than as heavy and unpleasant, particularly when viewed within the precincts; a very different idea is given within, in every respect magnificent and pleasing. The whole length including the library beyond the altar is about 390 feet, breadth 70, and transept 135. The whole was lately new repaired and varnished with most suitable combination of colours, very unlike that taudry mixture which so much defiles the dignity of Wells. The body of this church is used for public preaching, and early prayers, and filled with pews, a throne for the bishop, &c. in a manner I never saw before. The west window is adorned with modern painted glass, representing seven of the apostles, St. Paul, Luke, Matthew, Peter, Mark, John and Andrew, with the arms of those nobility and gentry of the diocese, at whose joint expence it was executed with much taste and ingenuity, by Mr. Picket of York. The screen displays much fancy and magnificence of antiquity, representing from the creation to the ascension in curious colours. Over this is a superb organ, esteemed very fine, the largest pipe being fifteen inches diameter, two more than that of the celebrated one at Ulm. The choir is particularly light and beautiful, the east window contains good old painting; the altar piece finely devised and ornamented with a perspective view of the inside of the church painted in the reign of James I. and the throne of most curious workmanship, the carvings of the canopy are 60 feet high. We could meet with no directory or description of the tombs, &c. nor has any pocket companion of this sort yet been published, so that our account must be very short and imperfect; Humphrey Bohun, earl of Hereford, Hugh Courtney, earl of Devon, and his lady, Lord Chichester, bishops Stafford, Stapleton, Brounscombe, Lacy, &c. sir Thomas Speke, sir Richard Stapleton, sir Peter Carew having 17 coats of arms all impaled on the tomb, dated 1575, several other Carews, and Knights Templars, lying cross-legged in armour; and a fine monument in the lady's chapel, to the memory of the famous judge Dodderige, obiit 1628, æt. 73.

" Learning adieu, for Dodderige is gone
To fix his earthly to the heav'nly throne."

Another principal building, situate at a small distance east of the city is the Devon and Exeter hospital, for the benefit of the decayed, sick, and indigent, one of the most laudable charities ever encouraged, which reflects great credit on its first founder, Dr. Alured Clark, dean of this church, 1740; and though supported by a very bountiful subscription, yet I was told that the numbers of poor manufacturers with which it is crowded, render it necessary to raise an immediate supply by further contribution. This woollen business, though not so flourishing as formerly, employs an abundance of hands, and is chiefly wrought in the surrounding villages, and brought here to be dyed, &c. which we saw in passing over the bridge amongst the suburbs, consisting of dye-houses and drying frames, spread in crowds on the banks of the river.

From hence we ascend the immense hill of Halldown, near seven miles in length and three broad; about half-way up we have a pleasing view of Halldown house, the elegant seat of sir Robert Palke, bart. built after the manner of Buckingham house, and well surrounded with plantations. Though in itself a barren flinty common, this vast summit displays one of the noblest prospects in this kingdom. To the south a most glorious expanse of sea, with the river Ex winding from the city into it, begirt with numerous villages, seats, &c. the other three points affording at the same time some of the boldest and most beautiful inland scenes imaginable. The evening closed in too fast to give us all its charms in perfection, such as the adjacent new tower-like summer-house might yield upon a favourite day. We now descended with haste to our place of rest, the small old market town of Chudleigh, which gives name to a very ancient family, and title of baron to the Cliffords, sir Thomas, lord high treasurer of England, being created by Charles II., whose seat, called Ugbrook, is close adjacent.

Early next morning the wind blowing mild, but misty, from the south-west, and threatening rain, we proceeded to Ashburton: about half a mile on this road hang the rude heads of a large black marble rock, which commands a wild view of the hills, woods, and vales beneath; this curious stratum, found in large bodies in this part of the country, we saw here converted by fire into very useful lime for dressing and improving the land, a great part of which is arable and pasture, as well as abounds in cyder fruits, this year so uncommonly plentiful. In these marble quarries they get large blocks, and send them to Plymouth, London, &c. which, for hardness and variety of veins are little inferior to foreign productions. Passing over some rugged moors we saw on our left the seat of Mr. Templar. Ashburton is a neat market-town of one principal street, built chiefly of the white slate found in these parts. It has a large handsome church, built cathedral-wise, with a tower 90 feet high, and a leaden spire. Claims also the privileges of a very ancient borough by prescription, under the government of a portreeve, chosen annually at the lord's-court. The choice of the two members is by the voice of all house inhabitants, who are returned by that officer. It is likewise one of the four stannary towns for the county, and gives title to a new-made law lord (Dunning) now deceased, an original inhabitant, if not a native. After breakfast we left this place for Plymouth, the long struggle between the sun and clouds, at length ended in violent rain, which continued the remainder of the day; in the midst of which we arrived at Ivy bridge, but without being able to see the beauties of this romantic situation. We dined at a most excellent inn, and afterwards proceeded without much observation till we approached the vicinity of Plymouth, in which are several good seats, particularly one at Saltram, belonging to lord Borringdon*, whose situation and hang-

* Lord Borringdon died here Tuesday, April 28, 1788. He was made a Peer 1784.

ing woods by the side of this arm of the sea might be deemed worthy much attention, was there not so great a rival (Mount Edgecumb) just opposite.

Plymouth is situated between two very large inlets, made by the union of the Plym and Tamar with the channel, which form a most noble bay, or sound, for ships of the greatest burden. The inlet of this sea, which extends many miles up the country north, to the river Tamar, is called Hamouze, and parts Devon from Cornwall. The other which receives the Plym, is called Catwater, an harbour capable of containing any number of vessels, which is appropriated chiefly for trade, to Virginia, the Sugar Islands, and the Streights. In the reign of Edward III., we find this place considerable; afterwards it much decayed, and dwindled into a small fishing town; about two centuries ago the convenience of the haven gave rise to its increase, and now we see it a most flourishing and able port, protected by a strong fort, built by Charles II. consisting of five regular bastions, &c. The docks for building and repairing war ships, begun by King William III. in 1691, are now brought to the highest perfection, which we shall describe anon in the order we saw them. Our first business was to view the streets and buildings of the old town, which engrossed but little of our time, being vile and almost dangerously narrow; it has however two handsome churches, St. Andrew, and Charles-church, so called from its being dedicated to the memory of Charles I. This being a borough town under the government of a mayor, &c. the streets about the town hall we saw now crowded with people about to choose a new one, as is usual at this season of the year.

We went next to visit Mount Edgecumbe, the delightful seat of the noble lord of the same name, situate on the opposite side of the Ham-ouze. The way from hence is through Stonehouse, a populous place, to the dock; here we were attacked by a violent storm, which threatened awhile to prevent our promised pleasure; this ceasing, we soon arrived at Dock, which surprized us with a very large display of spacious streets, intersecting each other at right angles, very different from the place we had just left; as the inhabitants here are chiefly mechanicks, &c. belonging to the docks, the houses are slightly built, either of plaister, or slate stone, abundantly got hereabouts, and will not bear a minute inspection, but have a good effect at a distance. Leaving our carriage we walked to the passage, and crossed without any difficulty about three quarters of a mile to the other side of the water, which thus divides the two counties. A ring at the bell just beyond procures a necessary attendant, who shews and explains the whole of this terrestrial paradise. A gradual ascent up the lawn leads to the house, an ancient Gothic structure with three fronts; the east looking full upon the Sound.

The internal improvements, that were now making, prohibited our inspection; take therefore Carew's account (published 1605,) which is lively and accurate; "Upon this south shore, somewhat within the island, standeth Mount Edgecumb, a house builded and named by sir Richard Edgecumb, father to the now possessor: and if comparisons were as lawful in the making, as they prove odious in the matching, I would presume to ranke it for health, pleasure, and commodities, with any subjects house of his degree in England. It is seated against the north, on the declining of a hill, in the midst of a deer park, neere a narrow entrance, through which the salt water breaketh up into the country, to shape the greatest part of the haven. The house is builded square, with a round turret at each end, garretted at the top, and the hall rising in the midst above the rest, which yieldeth a stately sound, as you enter the same. In summer, the open casements admit a refreshing coolness: in winter, the two closed doores exclude all offensive coldness: the parlour and dining chamber give you a large and diversified prospect of land and sea; to which under-ly St. Nicholas Island, Plymmouth fort, and

the townes of Plymmouth, Stonehouse, Milbrook, and Saltash. It is supplied with a never-fayling spring of water, and the dwelling stored with wood, timber, fruit, deere, and conies. The ground abundantly answereth a house-keeper's necessities, for pasture arable and meadow, and is replenished with a kind of stone, serving both for building, lyme, and marble. On the sea cliffs groweth great plenty of the best ore-wood, to satisfie the owner's want and accommodate his neighbours. A little below the house, in the summer evenings, layne boats come and draw with their nets for fish, whither the gentry of the house walking downe, take the pleasure of the sight, and fometimes at all adventures buy the profit of the draughts. Both sides of the forementioned narrow entrance, together with the passage betweene (much haunted as the high way to Plymouth,) the whole town of Stonehouse, and a great circuite of the land adjoining appertain to Mr. Edgumbe's inheritance: these sides are fenced with block-houses, and that next to Mount Edgumbe was wont to be planted with ordinance, which at coming and parting, with their base voices greeted such guests as visited the house, neither hath the opportunity of the harbour wanted occasions to bring them, or the owners a franke mind to invite them. For prooffe whereof, the earst remembered sir Richard, (a gentleman, in whom mildness and stoutness, diffidence and wisdom, deliberateness of undertaking, and sufficiency of effecting, made a more commendable than blazing mixture of virtue,) during Queen Mary's reign, entertained at one time, for some good space, the admirals of the English, Spanish, and Netherland fleets, with many noble-men besides*."

We now proceeded along what was the green terrace, but has been lately gravelled, and had a fine view of the harbour, the old town of Salthouse, on the opposite hill, Mr. Harrison's seat, Stonehouse, Dock, and Plymouth, &c. in the sound, Nicholas Island, fatal fometimes to unwary ships. Last December twelve months, three, heavy laden with iron, split upon the rocks and were lost. The bold termination on the eastern shore, is called Withey Hedge. From hence we continue through bowers of various foliage, oaks, chesnuts, limes, plantains, variegated fycamores green and white, &c. to an alcove opposite the gate into the deer park, which affords a similar sweet view. The first object after entering the park, is a moss house; from this we next come to an open bench looking full upon the merchants' harbour of Catwater. Lord Borringdon's pleasant place at Saltram has a charming effect here, bosomed in its own woods and backed by Devon hills. South east in the sound, at a small distance from the shore, rises a high cragg called Mews-stone; to this little island about fourteen years ago a man was transported for seven years, where he quietly remained his due time without setting foot on other land. Leaving this habitation to his daughter he went to Loo Island, about 30 miles further in Cornwall. She still remains here, a widow with three children, her husband being lately drowned. We now were hid awhile in sweet foliage till we came upon the large terrace beyond the park. Here the watry expanse burst full upon the view, and from the vast arch we pass under, with a glasse I could plainly see Eddystone light-house, four leagues from hence, and three from any land. The ingenious Mr. Winstanley first undertook this arduous piece of architecture, and by repeated visits made it stand the attack of many a bitter storm, but at last too confident of the stability of human affairs he had his wish of being in it, "when a storm should happen," that fatal hurricane, Nov. 27, 1703, which baffling all attempts of distant aid, plunged the whole fabric, and its unfortunate founder and all that were with him into the watery grave. A few days after, the Winchelsea, a homeward-bound merchant-ship

* Carey's Survey of Cornwall, fol. 100.

from Virginia, ignorant of what had happened, run foul of the rock, and suffered the same fate. Another was afterwards erected by the corporation of Trinity-house, in pursuance of an act of parliament passed in 5th of Queen Anne, which was destroyed by fire in Dec. 1755; the two men who had the care of it were saved by means of a boat sent by admiral West from Plymouth; the present useful work was rebuilt under the direction of Mr. John Smeaton, F. R. S. and allowed to be the completest in Europe.

The intervening mixture of sunshine and short storms was very favourable for this delicious excursion. From hence we descend through serpentine bowers of bays, myrtles, arbutuses, laurestinuses, &c. to lady Damer's garden, (so called,) at the end of which is a large stone alcove with a complimentary inscription. Ascending again by similar zig-zags to the terrace, the opening here presents a fine view of Corson Bay and the two little ports, Kingston and Corson, the haunts of smugglers; the former stands in Devon, the latter in Cornwall, only separated by a small creek. Here was the scene of much confusion in the late war, when the French fleet was daily seen to float about this bay, meditating destruction to the docks at Plymouth.

The following extract on the subject from a letter in the Gentleman's Magazine, for August 1779, reflects great credit on the noble lord for his conduct, and public spirit on the occasion. "Every body is sorry for the devastation produced in the beautiful woods of Mount Edgecumbe. It is an entire falsehood that his Lordship objects to their being cut down, for on a proper representation of the circumstances by lord Shuldharn and others here, that it was very possible that these groves might be made use of as a place of concealment for the enemy, in attack upon the dock-yards, all that his Lordship said on the occasion was this, "If it be absolutely necessary for the preservation of the dock-yards that Mount Edgecumbe be destroyed, you have my ready consent, even to the last shrub. Nothing with me can have any weight against a circumstance of that moment. No private interest can have the smallest influence when set in balance with an object of the magnitude you mention; but I would beg leave to remark, gentlemen, that without your fears are very well founded, I am entirely averse to the destruction of these groves. If you are convinced, on serious deliberation, that danger may arise from them, down with them; if you are not quite so certain, for heaven's sake let them stand." The Generals persevered in their opinions, and they were immediately cut down with the entire concurrence of the owner. If this was really the case, how rapidly must have been their growth, so soon to appear in the present flourishing condition. Our guide gave us a genuine piece of intelligence, which he had lately received from two officers, who were in the French service at the time, and shewed him the two places thought of for landing their men, one on this side Kingston, the other on the hill beyond; but their designs were inefficient, and happily prevented. Winding beautifully round we came next to a Gothic alcove, built from the materials of an old chapel, the inside of which gives a picturesque view of nothing but the sea, the fore-ground an hollow verdant slope to the margin of the water. In our walk from hence we saw very fine cork-trees, live-oaks, &c. the variety of heath and other blossoms hanging around gave all the luxuriant tints of a real garden.

We now entered the deer park again, and crossed where our defensive regiments were encamped. On the summit of the hill stands a lofty parish church, belonging to Corson, Kingston, and Milbrook; from the tower are placed various signals, and the circular prospect is here immense. Descending now the common walk to the house, we came to the white alcove on the dry walks, (so called) which fronts full north, and gives a beautiful perspective up the harbour, St. John's Lake, St. German's and Milbrook, with an intermixture of Devon and Cornwall. Passing towards the front grounds again, we saw
many

many very noble trees, oaks of near twenty different sorts, fine flourishing chesnuts, and cedars of Lebanon. In a part called the wilderness, is placed a flat stone two feet square, with so much nicety as to catch a glimpse of seven different towers; viz. Anton, Dock-yard, the new chapel at Dock, Stoke, Plymouth, old and new churches, and Plymstock. Near the water stands a neat Doric alcove, with the following inscription from Thomson.

————— On either hand,
 Like a long wintry forest, groves of masts
 Shot up their spires; the bellying sheet between
 Possess'd the breezy void; the sooty hulk
 Steer'd sluggish on; the splendid bark along
 Row'd regular, to harmony; around
 The boat, light skimming stretch'd its oary wings,
 While deep the various voice of fervent toil,
 From bank to bank, increas'd; whence ribb'd with oak
 To bear the British thunder black and bold
 The roaring vessels rush'd into the main.

A little beyond is a battery of 22 guns, for the purpose of salutes, &c. Lastly we saw the orangery, an excellent building, 100 feet by 30, where the fruit ripens in almost equal perfection with that abroad.

We now took leave of these enchanting scenes, and made a comfortable repast at the passage house, called Cremil, which pays the rent of 400l. per ann. to lord Edgecumbe, besides the expence of seven men, boats, &c. We afterwards returned across, to inspect the nature and extent of the docks, which are inexpressibly surprizing and magnificent. To obtain a sight of them is difficult, requiring a form of your names and abodes, with the addition of some resident person of Plymouth, to be sent to the governor or commissioner. Such caution is necessarily used, that any remarks with pen or pencil are forbid; therefore a full and accurate description must not here be expected. Besides the several dry and wet docks heretofore established, they are still adding to the numbers. One in particular, of the first-rate dimensions, cut out of the solid rock, and beautifully lined, and faced with Portland stone, may challenge the universe to shew its equal. A most extensive wet dock for masts is now finishing; the immense range of building for stores, and warehouses for sails, rigging, &c. and dwellings for the commissioner, clerks, and all other necessary officers, are well worth the notice of strangers. Within themselves too are the immense forges for making anchors, and all other iron work, belonging to ships of the largest size. The whole contains a space of 70 acres. Amongst the numerous men of war which now lay in harbour, were the Royal Cerberus, of 100 guns, and several others newly launched; also was refitting the —, taken from the Spaniards in the last war, and when finished to be honoured with the name of Gibraltar. We now retired to our inn at Plymouth. This place had the honour of giving birth to that great explorer of the seas, sir Francis Drake.

Having visited the most striking features of this place, our next object was to extend about 40 miles into Cornwall, where we might obtain a sufficient knowledge of its valuable mines. This county like Spain, a peninsula, surrounded on all sides by the sea except the east, stretches westward the furthest of all Britain, and is inhabited by the remains of those, whom the calamities of cruel war, and tyrannical oppressions forced into these western parts of the island, Wales and Cornwall, which are naturally fortified with hills and æstuaries. In the British language it is called Kernnaw, because it diminishes like a horn and runs out into so many similar promontories. The Saxon conqueror, who called foreigners and every thing strange, Wealsh, named the inhabi-



Engraved by George Cooke.

*St. Michel at Puy,
in Velay.*

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tants of this place Cornwealsh, whence in Latin Cornwallia, and at present Cornwall. This county though very extensive, is not either by the subsiding of the land, or the encroachment of the sea, of its original magnitude. For by tradition we learn, that there was formerly a tract of land called the Lioness, extending towards the Scilly Islands, now either sunk into or swallowed up by the sea*.

Some have compared the shape of this county to the whole island of Britain, the east and broadest side being called the base, and the land's end, the northern extremity of our island; which if viewed in this light, the coast in proportion to its size, is as much, if not more indented. It is from hence, as we may easily conceive, that it enjoys most of the advantages, and is subject likewise to some of the inconveniences, of an insular situation, and is of great consequence in regard to the variety and value of its products†. This insular situation contributes greatly to the salubrity of the climate, and the health and robustness of its inhabitants, for though subject to severer storms than those further from the sea, yet they seldom continue long, and being succeeded by calms, the air is constantly in motion which sufficiently dispels the pernicious particles arising from the mines, &c. and leaves in their room those vivifying qualities wafted by the genial breezes of the ocean. The summer and winter seasons here differ much from those in other parts of England; the heat of the former not being so intense, nor the cold of the latter so piercing; this we have sufficiently shewn in our account of the flourishing natural state of myrtles, and various other delicate plants, that so beautifully grace the borders of Mount Edgecumbe. The middle part of the county is for the most part mountainous and rough, which is apt to give travellers a worse opinion of the whole than it really deserves, for the vallies are fertile enough of themselves, and they incredibly enrich them with a fat sea sand, and other sea manure, called ore-weed. This has been the custom in these parts ever since the time of Henry III. at least, though, in the early ages of the world common salt was so far from being held in any estimation as a manure, that it was looked upon as a symbol of extreme sterility, and we find Dr. Watson‡ has quoted several passages from scripture which affirm it. Virgil and Pliny reprobate the same as barren and unfit for the plough or vegetation. Notwithstanding these and other testimonies of the ancients, this sand in which sea salt is so copiously mixed, when fresh, is used with great success; but if long exposed to the air, it proves less useful and enriching, which is by some attributed, according to Camden, to its having been deprived of a good part of its salt, by the dews and rains. This shelly sand is produced by the fluctuation of the sea, and consists of the broken shells of muscles, cockles, oysters, scollops, and other fish; varying somewhat in colour and in grain, according to the substances from which it is formed, and the degree of agitation it has been exposed to; and it is found to fertilize almost all kinds of soils§.

Leskard from hence is the best and easiest road to St. Austle and Truro, where the mines principally centre; but in order to enjoy as much of the sea and noble prospects as possible, we crossed the passage again at Dock, and leaving Mount Edgecumbe on our left, passed on the sands under the cliff to Milbrook, where we saw the king's brewery, and ascended the hills through steep rough roads to Craftshole, a small dirty village; here coming upon the vast expanse of sea the views and breezes were delightful, and with a glass we plainly saw Edystone light-house with the waves dashing against the rock beneath. The farmers were busy manuring with this sand peculiar to these parts, which

* Camden, vol. i. page 12. Borlase's two discourses in Philos. Transf. vol. xlviii page 55 and 57.

† Campbell's Survey of Britain, vol. i. p. 342, 343.

‡ In his third Essay, vol. second.

§ Philosophical Transactions, No. 113.

they draw mostly on heavy carts with six bullocks, coaxing them along by an unpleasant monotony of language; a custom that seems to be more efficacious than the violent persuasion of blows and whips.

Our object was now to obtain on any terms a passage to Loo, without losing sight of this noble sea. Saddle horses would render the difficulty of this route a pleasure, but with any carriage it is deemed impracticable. Batten Cliffs, or Cleeves according to the western dialect, are the great terror; which however with the utmost care and caution we attempted. From the summit of these cliffs the view is gloriously fine, and we might have enjoyed it and returned only a few miles round. But as strange adventures and deviations from the common paths of men, are the very spirit and delight of travelling, our ambition was to proceed. Though there was no dread of any injury to our persons while on foot, yet the horse and carriage were in real danger. The descent is near a mile, by a narrow zig-zag just sufficient to admit the wheels; and the least mishap at any of these turns must inevitably have plunged both into the abyss below. We happily accomplished our design with safety, and a few huts we soon after passed, poured forth their little tribes to gaze at us with astonishment. Our vehicle was to them a rare-show of the first kind, as those of the sea, which they had always before their eyes, would be to the most remote inlander.

The alternate bays and promontories now afforded us much enjoyment after our fatigue, and the next mile to the bay of White-sand, was quite a luxury. The road from hence was so narrow, besides other difficulties to encounter, that we deviated a little to the right, which soon brought us to East Loo, a small ill-built town on the river Loo, separated only by this water from another still smaller, called after the same manner, West Loo. They are both corporate boroughs, sending two members to parliament under the influence of Mr. Buller, uncle or brother to the Judge, but formerly belonging to the Courtney family. The scene here is truly picturesque, the river winding betwixt two immense woody hills, not unlike some parts of the Wye. This river rises near St. Clare, and running about twelve miles falls into the sea. Opposite the mouth of this river stands the small island of the same name, belonging to sir Henry Trelawney, whose seat is not far from hence; this at a trifling acknowledgment is inhabited by the old man, mentioned at Mew's-rock, Plymouth, whose name is Finn, and here by his own industrious cultivation of wheat and other grain, he reaps a comfortable subsistence. At the proper season of the year, various sea-fowl resort to these rocks for the purpose of incubation, at which time, says Carew, "you shall see your head shadowed with a cloud of old ones, through their diversified cries, witnessing their dislike of your disturbance of their young." After dinner we crossed the bridge of 13 arches; and passed through West Loo in our way to Lostwithiel. The road was very bad and intricate, and the evening became dark and rainy, which soon brought us to another train of adventures, for we were completely lost and confined to a creeping pace, and in fear every moment of being overturned; at length we blundered into the village of Lanteith, where we hoped to procure accommodations for the night, but were disappointed; our only comfort and security was now to hire a guide and lantern to conduct us the remainder of the way, six miles to Lostwithiel, which we did without fear of ridicule or molestation in these solitary parts.

Gentle reader, if any of those midnight scenes in the adventures of that renowned knight of chivalry, Don Quixotte de la Mancha, are fresh upon your memory, you will easily find a parallel to the present. And though perhaps no such vehicle as a gig or one horse chaise was in use then, at least we do not find the knight and his squire indulge in them, some allowance must be made for the difference of times and purposes: and

strictly speaking even this was not incongruous, for the chariots of war were much esteemed amongst the ancients. Thus seated our persons were defended from the rude inclemencies of the weather, by those modern fix-caped coats of mail, formed for utility, and sanctioned by fashion. On one side was brandished the spear-like shining of a whip, on the other hung the broad quivering surface of a paraplue. And though we will not degrade our own horse with the title of Rosinante, yet our guide occupied the bare ribs of as true a one as that of the great knight himself. Thus mounted with the glimmering lanthorn dangling in his hand, he led us on through dismal unshapen hollows and paths, a foot-pace, till at length we found ourselves upon a large common. The wind blew hard, the rain beat, and to our great mortification soon extinguished the one poor dubious light. Happily the distance to our intended inn was not very far; so we scrambled slowly on and arrived safe, though fatigued, having been five hours coming the 11 miles from Loo. The most perilous adventure that ever befel that fanciful knight errant, for the sake of his enchanting Dulcinea, was not more extraordinary than this day's excursion, for the sake of our beloved prospect.

As we entered the welcome Lostwithiel and our hotel (so the inns in this country are mostly called) the voice of mirth and gladness loudly meet our ear; we were no strangers to the occasion, having lately seen the same at Plymouth, viz. a choice of mayor for this corporate town, succeeded by a grand dinner and night of general festivity. The members are elected by the votes of capital burghesses, and the interest rests at present with lord Edgcumbe, who was now here. Richard Earl of Cornwall, and brother of Henry III. who was elected king of the Romans 1254, first incorporated this town, and it has sent representatives ever since 23d of Edward I.

In the morning, October 1, we proceeded eight miles to St. Austle, eager to satisfy our curiosity with mineral observations. The road was smooth but hilly, the country at first heathy and bad. About four miles from hence, the summit of a vast hill affords a noble view of Bar bay, encompassed with mountainous cliffs, &c. while on our right hangs as picturesque a scene of wood, rock, and valley, as the most inland part can produce; which is seldom seen so near the sea. Descending to St. Blazey, we had a small specimen of a wash tin mine, &c. which was now finished and filling up. A little further on our right, we passed a fine old place belonging to Mr. Carlion, called Tregreen, situate on a pleasant airy eminence, richly planted, and commanding much prospect towards the sea. Again we were surrounded with a bleak heath, thinly bespotted with huts and common mines. From hence we arrived at St. Austle, a pleasant little town on the west-side of a hill, and about two miles from the south shore. Its streets and buildings are superior to what we had lately seen, and mostly of the moor stone of the country, mixed with spar and ore, which works soft and easy, but hardens by an exposure to the air and weather. This happy spot is blessed by a peculiar favour, with all the comforts and riches of life, without feeling the inconveniences and troublesome broils of a borough. And from being the capital of those inestimable mines so peculiar to this country, may justly be called the Peru of Great Britain. As this is a subject too important and interesting to pass over hastily; and as sufficient knowledge may be obtained in a few days by a minute attention and good instructions, I shall therefore presume to dwell more particularly here, and offer the full result of our enquiries. About two miles south-west of this place, begins this store of wealth, in the bowels of the earth, consisting of three principal works, the larger, and which we now visited, is named Polgonth and belongs to the earl of Arundel. Without the fatigue and inconvenience of descending 114 fathoms, we saw every process on the surface; whems and engines perform their operations here on the large scale, which this arduous task requires. By water

and fire engines they constantly keep these subterraneous works dry, without which the whole in a few hours would be drowned out. Before the great improvement of Mr. Bolton's fire engine of Birmingham, for which he has a patent, it was thought impossible to keep this deepest work properly dry in winter; but that is not the case, for one of these wonderful machines evacuates a hoghead a minute, and acts with the force of 11lb. 1-4th upon every square inch of its cylinder, whose diameter is 63. In undermining and proping up their pits great art and ingenuity are exercised, and every six hours there is a relief of men. We saw the ore brought up in various size and mixture; which they pound, wash, and separate the mundic by fire, in large ovens; which inflexible stuff evaporates in poisonous smoke. Besides the enormous depth above mentioned, these works are 1300 fathom in length. The nature of expences and profits of labour, &c. shall be noticed when we come to speak of the smelting business at St. Austle. Here we will introduce by way of tragical interlude, a most dismal catastrophe, which befel a poor unfortunate man about a fortnight since, who had wandered here in company with his sister and friend to satisfy that craving appetite of the human breast, curiosity; our guide prefaced his description of one of these water engines, with shewing us where he ignorantly, or inattentively stooped over the rails of the pit, when the ponderous beam, descending in its course, severed with horrid crush his head from his body. A mode of self-beheading too shocking for human nature to conceive. In such a situation no possible assistance could be given. Think then how wretched must have been the feelings of his helpless friends, who saw the fatal stroke. Let imagination paint the rest, while we drop our curtain o'er the dismal scene, and return to a more agreeable subject at St. Austle. Ordering dinner at the White-hart, a good inn, we walked a short distance to inspect the smelting houses belonging to Messrs. Fox and Co. which are excessively curious, particularly the blowing house for making what is called grain tin, which can only be obtained from the purest sort, consisting of small black* stones or crystals, called shoad, mostly collected amongst the surface, or sands, by stream works; and what seems extraordinary, this finer metal cannot be produced from the other sort called Lode-works, dug deeper in the earth. This valuable process is about 150 years old, and what renders it most worthy the notice of a traveller is its confinement to this place there being only two other of these blowing houses for grain tin, and those within a mile of this, in the known world. The grain tin is produced from the strongest heat of charcoal, whereas the other is smelted, and separated from its allay by common sea coal. The flux is greatly improved by an addition of iron or its ore thrown occasionally in, and is then laded into troughs of stone of an oblong form, containing about 300lb. of metal, called slabs or blocks. A block of common tin is worth about 12l. the other 14l. A steak or piece of meat cooked on one of these latter, while hot, is esteemed the greatest of all plain epicurism, a strong proof of the purity of this metal. The profits of these mines are thus divided. The proprietor has a 15th of the nett produce, and the bounderer the same, the Prince of Wales as Duke of Cornwall, has his share by a well regulated tax, 4s. per 100l. amounting to upwards of 10,000l. *per annum.*, so open and fair that it is impossible he should be defrauded. The whole produce of the county is about 10,000 blocks *per annum*: or to the amount of near 150,000l. Borlase says 200,000l. which is four times as much as in the last century. Each miner undertakes what share of work he pleases, which is the merest lottery in the world, more so than the hop trade; sometimes they can earn 20l. per month,

* Though generally black, they are not always so, but sometimes white, ash-coloured, or red, resembling glass, and very rich in metal.

per week, per day, at others not twenty farthings. One lucky adventure will soon gain an independent fortune; another unsuccessful, though flattering attempt, may sink it to the lowest ebb, nay even to the bitterest distress. Thus we find the generality of these inhabitants wafted from time to time on the variable waves of prosperity and adversity. It is even computed that every lb. or block of tin, before it comes to sale, has been the means of an average expenditure of double the sum it sells for. Mr. Henry Gafech is the chief manager of these works, under the denomination of sample-tryer, which is as much reduced to a system as any farmer's business in the corn market. The miners bring in their samples reduced almost to a powder; if therefore such a quantity will produce such a proportion of pure metal*, he offers his price for the whole; perhaps they refuse and say it will produce more; he then has recourse to experiment in his private fusible; thus he finds out whether it is worth more or less, and the bargain is made. Through this person's hands all the payments weekly pass, at the rate of 1100l. per week for the tin, and about 300 more for all out-goings.

'Twas thus mankind were furnished with a method to prevent the fatal accidents attending the use of copper vessels. "And in the year 1755, the society for the encouragement of arts, manufactures, and commerce, thought it an object deserving their attention, to offer a premium for the tinning copper and brass vessels with pure tin, without lead or any other alloy. There were several candidates for the premium; and since that time, the tinning with pure tin has become very general in England.†" Many experiments have been since made both at home and abroad, to prove the purity and safety of this metal. M. Bosc d'Antic in his works, which were published at Paris 1780, sets aside the authority of Marggraf, Cramer, and Hellot, relative to the existence of arsenic in tin; and is not only of opinion, that Cornish tin does not conceal any arsenic in its substance, but that its use as kitchen furniture is not dangerous. The constant and common use of tin utensils for many years, before the introduction of china or other earthen ware, without any ill effects, render all other proof of the innocence of pure tin superfluous. Hence it may be proper to add a few observations concerning the purity of tin. This ore, like those of lead and other metals, frequently contains both tin, iron, and copper. So that without any fraudulent proceeding in the smelters, common tin may be thus adulterated by the same heat, smelting the ores mixed with it. But this natural variety in the purity of tin, though sufficiently discernable, is far less than that which is fraudulently introduced. The difference of the value of this metal and lead, is sufficient temptation to cause an adulterating mixture with foreigners; when the fear of detection is small. But here, the purity of tin is ascertained, before it is exposed to sale, by what is called its coinage; one of those blocks, described in the beginning of the smelting process, is coined in the following manner. "The officers appointed by the duke of Cornwall, assay it, by taking off a piece of one of the under corners of the block, partly by cutting and partly by breaking; and if well purified, they stamp the face of the block with the impression of the seal of the duchey, which stamp is a permission for the owner to sell, and at the same time an assurance that the tin so marked has been purposely examined, and found merchantable"‡.

This is the truth of what is called common tin, but with regard to what is vulgarly called block-tin, (properly grain tin,) there can be no doubt of its purity, as it is

* Tin grains or corns of tin, yield 5 parts in 8 of metal; whereas tin stones or ore yield only from 1 in 30, to 1 in 60 or 120.

† Watson's Chemistry, vol. iv. p. 152.

‡ Borlase's Nat. Hist. of Corn. p. 183.

originally unmixed with any other ore, and thoroughly cleansed from its weeds before it enters the fire. And as I have shewn before, is quite a distinct substance from the other sort, called lode works, dug deep out of the earth, and only to be obtained from the pure pebbles and grains, collected amongst the surface or sands, by stream works, which being thrown into the strong heat of charcoal, the violence of the large bellows here used, blows out the pure liquid into a trough beneath the furnace, and dissipates all impurities in a white smoak up the chimney. Those who are desirous of becoming more fully acquainted with this subject, will find a table of the specific gravities of this pure and unadulterated tin, compared with other experiments, &c. in Dr. Watson's fourth essay, vol. iv.

The tanners in Cornwall have great advantage (in comparison of others) both as to the number of mines, the great quantity of metal in their ore, and the facility with which it is wrought, and which ought to be the greatest of all, the superiority of their metal authenticated by the coinage mark. But this avails too little; since, as Dr. Newman observes, there is not a tin-founder in Holland who has not English stamps, by the help of which he passes his composition for Cornish block-tin. There cannot be a more convincing proof than this of the excellency of our English tin, or a better ground for hoping we shall ever continue this valuable commodity.

The two brothers of the name abovementioned, to whom we were obliged for most of our information, shewed us a piece of solid rock of this ore, just found in the ground of a third brother, which they said might prove a superior treasure, or perhaps of no value; for the most flattering appearance is often suddenly thrown off by a vein of clay, which they call floken. After dinner we enjoyed much conversation with one of these intelligent models of civility, who had been long acquainted with the copper-mines in the vicinity of Truro, which he communicated to us almost to the same effect as if we had gone and visited them; which our time would not now allow. The principal are Huel Busy, Powldice, and Huel Virgin, consolidated; Ale-Cakes and Powldorey, united ones; the costs of these mines are about 4700l. or 4800l. per month; the highest return possible, 10,000l.—average about 5000l.

Copper is plentifully found in all the British territories, particularly in Cardigan-shire, Cornwall, Cumberland, Derbyshire, Devonshire, Lancashire, Isle of Man, Northumberland, Shropshire, Somersetshire, Staffordshire, Yorkshire, Wales, Warwickshire, Westmoreland, North Britain, Ireland, and America. Yet, though known long before, our mines have not been wrought above two hundred years, and not to much purpose till within the present century, owing chiefly to those errors and uncertainties in our laws in regard to our mines, which are now happily removed. This metal is sometimes found so pure, and in such large pieces as to make it necessary to break them in the mine before they can be conveniently raised; but in general, like other metals, involved in stoney crusts of various colours, so beautifully blended together, as to give it the name of the Peacock's-tail. This stoney ore is so intimately mixed with, and adheres so closely to, the metal, that it is very difficult to separate them, which is one principal cause of the dearness of copper. The mines are wrought to a great depth, often through a very hard rock, and consequently with much labour and at a vast expence. The veins or loads are much wider, thicker, and richer than those of either tin or iron. So that on the first opening a mine in Huel Virgin, in the parish of Gwenap, in July and August, 1757, it yielded as much copper in a fortnight, as sold for 5700l. and in the next three weeks and two days, as much more as sold for 9600l*. But this was a very extraordinary case, and what is not

* Borlase's Natural History, p. 206.

often to be expected. The very rich and recent discovery in the isle of Anglesea, belonging to the earl of Uxbridge, &c. has much depressed the flourishing condition of these mines. The separating the metal from the ore, and the other subsequent processes, are similar to those we have before described of tin, &c. After being once melted, with a proper flux used to dispose the metal, to separate from the earthy, stoney, sulphureous, and arsenical particles, with which it is intermixed, it is styled red copper; which still containing heterogeneous substances, is melted over again once or twice, and then called black copper. In this state it continues still mixed with metallic particles, chiefly lead and iron, from which it must also be purified; if it is suspected to hold silver, it is returned to the furnace, where a portion of lead is added, and then exposed only to such a degree of heat as is sufficient to melt the lead, which attracts and carries away the silver, leaving the block of copper honey-combed. This is afterwards melted, and becomes at last what is called rose copper, perfectly fine and pure. The uses of this metal, like those of iron, &c. &c. are too numerous and common to dwell on here; but it may be observed from copper is made brass, as described at Mendip hills, of an equal and extensive utility, from our heavy artillery down to the minutest wire for pins. The manufacture of which is curious, and gives bread to multitudes, since from the wire to the pin, 25 hands are employed.

Amongst these copper mines there issues a great quantity of water, strongly impregnated with the vitriol of copper. A piece of iron thrown into this water is in a short time so incrustated with a coat of copper as to appear totally changed; by this means, of soft iron bars put into the coppery water, such quantities are obtained in some places, as render the streams of as much consequence as the mines. And we learn from the Philosophical Transactions*, that one ton of iron produces near two of copper mud; and each ton of mud, 1600 weight of copper, which sells for 10l. a ton more than the copper which is fluxed from the ore. This method of obtaining copper was first discovered in these mines by one Saunders, as we were told, and has been since practised with great success. Borlase in his natural history of this county, says this art was discovered by Mr. Rouby of Plymouth, and in consequence of this a vitriol manufacture set up at Redruth, and recommends the method of procuring copper from iron put into these waters, where he says it produced to Cornwall 160,000l. annually for ten years past. In Hutchins's History of Dorsetshire†, we find a similar attempt was made in 1571, near Pool in that county. The celebrated copper mines at Arklow in the county of Wicklow in Ireland, are strongly impregnated with this quality, which by one of the workmen having accidentally left an iron shovel in this water, proved an advantageous discovery to the proprietors. And though this practice is but of late date with us, yet we find it long successful in Germany. In the year 1673, Dr. Brown in his travels, (p. 69,) tells us that he visited a famous copper mine at Herrn-Grundt, about seven miles from Newfol, where he saw two springs, called the old and new ziment, which turned iron into copper. Agricola speaks also of waters in the neighbourhood of Newfol in Hungary, which had the property of transmuting the iron which was put into them into copper‡. To account for this minutely and satisfactorily, requires all the knowledge and practice of a learned chemist, but it may not be improper to collect a short explanation of this process. Blue vitriol consists of copper united with the acid of vitriol; if to a

* For 1750, 51, and 52, p. 502.

† Vol. ii. p. 110.

‡ Agric. Fof. L. ix. p. 347.

solution of blue vitriol you add a piece of bright iron, it will presently become covered with a coppery coat, the copper will be precipitated, and the iron dissolved in its stead. The proof of this reasoning is easy: the matter which is precipitated may be melted into copper, and the liquid part may, by evaporation and crystallization, be made into green vitriol; that is, into a combination of the vitriolic acid and iron. Hence the acid of vitriol has a greater affinity with iron than it has with copper, because it quits that to unite itself with iron. In order to be convinced of the truth of what is advanced, we need only dip a bright key into a solution of blue vitriol, and we shall see the key soon covered with a copper pellicle. We may wonder in this extraordinary change what becomes of the iron, but this is now well understood. It is taken up by the water, and remains suspended in the place of the copper: so that this transmutation is nothing but a change of place; and as the copper is precipitated by the iron, so the iron might be precipitated by pot-ash, or any other substance which has a greater affinity with the acid of vitriol than iron has. This epitome of illustration may be found more satisfactorily in the 6th Essay, vol. i. of its parent author Dr. Watson, who farther observes; "The water, after copper has been precipitated by means of iron, is at present thrown away; it would, by evaporation, yield green vitriol; and as above 100 tons of iron must be employed in obtaining near that of copper, it may deserve to be considered, whether a manufactory of green vitriol might not be established at all these places, where copper is obtained by precipitation". Another consideration I will venture to add from my own inquiries, concerning the quantity of iron that is found here, without any benefit to themselves or the public. The scarcity of fuel, charcoal in particular, which is necessary for the manufactory of iron, incapacitates the inhabitants of Cornwall from making this a gainful commodity. So that this valuable ore either remains useless in its native earth, or when casually got out, is carelessly thrown aside. Would it not answer to the proprietors of those large works at Tintern in Monmouthshire, to establish a trade for this article, by which both might be mutually benefited? At present they have their principal ore from near Dalton in Lancashire, and though this is of superior quality perhaps, yet the difference of distance is so great, and the communication with Cornwall so much easier, that one would imagine such a trade most desirable, though it at present lies dormant only for want of connections or inquiry.

The principal copper, lead, and tin mines in Cornwall and Devonshire, all direct in their courses from the north east to the east points, parallel to each other, inclining or dipping to the north or south, according to the side of the hill where they are found. This inclination or dipping is sometimes 1 foot in 6, 8, 10, or 12, in form of the roof of a house: and although these veins or courses sometimes fly off in all directions, only as it were the sports of nature, they fall again at a little distance into their former stations. The same we are told, is observed in other mines in England, Scotland, and Wales, &c. except that at Ecton-Hill, in Staffordshire, belonging to the duke of Devonshire. This singular mine, in its position, situation, and inclination, is different from any yet discovered in Europe, Asia, Africa, or America. The wonderful mass of copper ore with which the mountain is impregnated, runs not in regular veins, or courses; but sinks perpendicularly down, widening and swelling out at the bottom, in form like a bell. Meeting with a lively and minute description of this mine in the Gentleman's Magazine for February, 1769; a complement from thence may not be unentertaining, and serve in some measure to make up for our own deficiencies, as the picture and process of one is nearly the same with another. "This copper mine was discovered about thirty years ago, by a Cornish miner, who

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in passing over the hill, accidentally picked up a bit of ore, annexed to some fine spar, which that metal usually adheres to. On viewing the situation, and considering the great height of the hill, he concluded that vast quantities of copper-ore might be found there; and if that should be the case, no place could be more convenient for working it: and therefore he communicated his sentiments and discoveries to some adventurers at Ashburn, who applied to the then duke of Devonshire, (grandfather to his present Grace) for a lease to search for copper on that hill. It appears by the most authentic accounts, that more than 13000*l.* were expended before any returns were made, and several original adventurers, despairing of success, sold out their shares at a considerable loss. But the second adventurers were more fortunate; after sinking a shaft of about 400 yards deep, and driving in an adit, immense quantities of copper ore were found, which continued to increase, the lower they descended, till the termination of the lease, by which very considerable fortunes were acquired. The whole has since been in the duke's hands, and continued working to great advantage. To take a view of this stupendous mine, you enter at an adit at the base of the hill by the river Dove, and proceed about 400 yards almost in a direct line. At your entrance, for about 60 yards, 'tis four feet and a half high, walled up on each side with good stone masonry; but afterwards it varies in its height, and rises in some places six feet. When you arrive at the centre, there is a spacious lodgment of timber, for landing the ore from below, which is drawn up by a man at a winch, and put into four wheel waggons that hold about a ton and a half. These waggons have cast brass wheels, and are run in grooves through the adit, by boys from 12 to 14 years old, with great facility. Thus far in the mountain, with the aid of lights, 'tis easy enough of access; but such a horrid gloom, such rattling of waggons, noise of workmen boring the rocks under your feet; such explosions in blasting, and such a dreadful gulph to descend, present a scene of terror that few people, who are not versed in mining, care to pass through. From the platform the descent is about 160 yards, through different lodgments, by steps made of cross pieces of timber, to the place of action; where a new scene infinitely more astonishing than that above, presents itself, a place as horrible to view as imagination can conceive. On the passage down, the constant blasting of the rocks, louder than the loudest thunder, seems to roll and shake the whole body of the mountain. Suppose yourself now upwards of 200 fathoms deep, at the bottom of this monstrous cavern of immense diameter*, where the glimmering light of candles, and suffocating smell of sulphur and gunpowder, all conspire to increase surprize and heighten apprehension; then suppose around you an impenetrable wall of lime stone, interspersed with small veins of copper ore, yellow, black, and brown, intermixt with spar, marcasite, mundic, and other sulphureous compositions, of all colours; and at the same time figure to yourself the sooty complexions of the miners, their labour, and mode of living, and you may truly fancy yourself in another world. Yet these inhabitants, being trained up in darkness and slavery, are not perhaps less happy, or less contented, than those who possess the more flattering enjoyment of liberty. It is supposed there are no less than 40,000 miners daily under-ground in the tin-mines in Cornwall; and perhaps as many, if

* Yet this is but miniature, compared to the copper-mines in and near the Carpathian hills in Hungary, supposed to have been now worked at least 1100 years, which extend under ground, in several places, 10, 12, and 15 English miles in length, and some of them from 300 to 400 fathoms deep, employing generally 4000 miners under ground, besides those of all ages and sexes above. Their veins, or courses, all direct from the north to the east points, inclining or dipping generally one foot in ten, some more, some less. Many other instances might be produced both in silver, copper, lead, and tin mines, to prove the general positions different from this at Ecton, and the more inclinable to the northward of the east, so much more valuable do they turn out in working.

not more, in other works of copper, lead, and coal, in Great Britain. They reckon above 300,000 miners in Sweden, Germany, Hungary, Switzerland, and other parts of Europe. And if we add the many thousands employed in the various mines in South America, Indians, Negroes, and white criminals, who are doomed to eternal darkness below, over and above those employed above-ground, we may modestly admit some millions of souls, whose bread depends on this laborious employment, and where many thousands live and die, without ever seeing the light of the sun. Hence the wisdom of providence is conspicuous, which, as Pope says, has placed "happiness no where to be had, or every where." So much for the internal parts; and as to the method of dressing, cleansing, and fitting the ore for sale, they are much the same as what we saw and described at the tin mines, therefore we may omit the minutiae relative to those preparations, and only add what follows, (*viz.*) "when all is ready, notice is given to the smelting houses, whose proprietors, or managers attend, and each bids what price he thinks proper, (generally from 7*l.* to 16*l.* per ton) and the highest bidder, being the buyer, fetches it at his own expence. That nothing may be lost, the refuse ore, which is not fit for sale, is smelted on the premises by his Grace, and there run into a regulus, in large pigs or bars, and is then sold from 7*ol.* to 9*ol.* per ton. The miners work at two-pence per hour, six hours at a time; women by task, earn from four-pence to eight-pence a day, and are paid by measure, according to the quantity of ore they can buck; (a technical term this, amongst miners, for beating or reducing the ore small, with flat hammers, or under stamping mills) girls and boys earn from two-pence to four-pence a day, some more; thus there is a constant employment for both sexes, and all ages, from five to 60 years old. This copper mine, in the state above described, clears annually between eight and ten thousand pounds, and may probably be made to double that sum. Our author concludes with observing, that if, like the Germans and Hungarians, we were to make proper draughts, sections, and perspective views of the internal parts of our mines, and delineate the course of the veins, &c. throughout the mine, together with a description of the discoveries, appearances, and various strata cut through in sinking down, and in driving adits, this method would serve as a future guide to other discoveries, and a saving of large sums to mine-adventurers, many of whom expend considerable fortunes, without the least rational sign or companion to minerals, being led (through a mistaken zeal) into airy schemes of that nature, by the over-persuasion of ignorant, yet cunning, and designing men."—

The privileges of the tanners are confirmed and enlarged by a charter of Edward III. The five coinage towns or stannary courts, are Leskeard, Lostwithiel, Truro, Helston, and Penfance; where, lest the dukes of Cornwall should be defrauded of the tax or tribute, it is ordered that all the tin be carried to one of these towns to be weighed, coined, and pay the impost. These courts are held before the lord warden and his substitutes, in virtue of a privilege granted to the workers in tin mines, to sue and be sued only in their own courts, that they may not be drawn from their business, which is highly profitable to the public, by attending their law-suits in other courts. St. Austle, though not mentioned by Camden or other writers as a stannary town, we find now more replete with business of this kind than the rest; a court is held here every six weeks for the purpose of settling disputes which chiefly arise about boundaries. Before this law was settled, the whole was a scene of confusion, bloodshed, and slaughter, between the proprietors of lands and the miners; now the boundarior and proprietor have an equal share, as mentioned before, and the miners quietly earn their profits under this influence and protection.

All ranks in this county are very sociable, generous, and kind to each other; being bounded on all sides, except Devon, by the sea, emigrations and intermixtures with other countries are less frequent than in other parts of the kingdom; so that they usually marry amongst themselves; whence comes the proverb, "that all Cornish gentlemen are cousins." It is the same in Wales; where the greatest compliment amongst one another in the same county, is the appellation of cousin. There is a great conformity of manners, customs, &c. between the Welch and Cornish, as well as similarity in their ancient languages, but the latter is more lost. I was greatly pleased to see the respect and veneration which the lower class in this town have for the gentlemen around them, from whose assistance and protection they seem to derive a greater share of happiness than I ever heard expressed in any other place.

Pilchards are a small fish, caught in vast abundance on these shores, which are exported from Movagizy, Penfance, &c. to France, Spain, and Italy; sometimes 8 or 900 hogsheds in a season. A very fine oil is produced here from these fish, which they pile up in great heaps as long and broad as the house made for that purpose will permit, and breast-high: then with proper boards, weights, &c. they press the oil out into a gutter, which communicates with a vessel fixed in the ground at one end of the house. We may here take notice of a few other of the principal fish, which frequent these coasts. The blower-whale, or fin-fish, which receives its name from blowing the water to a considerable height through a hole in its head. The grampus, usually about 18 feet long, and excessively voracious. The porpoise, called the *porcus piscis*, or the hog-fish, from the quantity of fat with which it is covered, or from the shape of its snout, and wallowing in the water. The blue shark, which during the pilchard season, is very destructive to the fishermen's nets. Seals, or sea-calves, are common in such caves of the shore as are least frequented. Turbot, plaice, dabs, &c. with all the various sorts of shell-fish, &c.

Besides the various sorts of stones, spars, granites, &c. with which this county abounds, a curious stone called the warming-stone hath here frequently been found, which is of such a nature, that when once heated it will continue warm eight or ten hours. The swimming stone, which has also been found in these parts, consists of rectilinear lamina, as thin as paper, intersecting each other, in all directions, and leaving unequal cavities between them; this structure renders the stone so cellular as to swim in water. The asbestos, or amiantus, of several kinds, have also been discovered here; this stone is so fibrous that linen has been made of it, which fire could not consume, but this art has been long lost.

Loftwithiel, to which we now return, was the Uzella of Ptolemy, and called by the Britons Pen Uchel Coed, (i. e.) an high place with a wood: nothing scarce remains but a small town in the valley, situate on the river Fowey; which is a strong argument in favour of the tradition of an ancient large city, once extending up the western hill. It is supposed the greater part was destroyed by an earthquake or inundation, as, at various periods, ruins have been dug up very deep, and some few coins; lately, in making a foundation for a house, several walls, &c. were discovered. This was, and is at present called the county town, though now Launceston is really so, yet the common gaol for the whole stannary is here, and also the sheriff's court for the county. The earl of Essex, who commanded the army of the parliament, was surrounded by the king's forces in this town, and so reduced, that his men were almost starved, and himself, with lord Roberts, obliged to escape by water to Fowey, and afterwards to Plymouth, &c. the rest submitted. In this siege, the steeple of the church, which was a fine Gothic structure, was much damaged.

The Fowey was formerly navigable to this town, which enabled the inhabitants to carry on a considerable trade, but this, through neglect, has long been on the decline. But like the rest of these rivers, it abounds in fish. In the months of May and June they take here a black trout, some of which are near three feet in length. About the end of August another sort appears, called the Bartholomew trout. This is generally about 18 inches long, of a fine red colour, and in much higher esteem than the other. Salmons also are taken here plentifully. This river rises on a high mountain called Brown-willy, takes a very romantic course, and passing through this place, receives several other streams, so that at the town of Fowey, about six miles below, it forms an extensive harbour. Like the rest of the rivers, it has but a short course, for rising perpendicularly in a peninsula, whose greatest breadth is but 15 miles, and in some places only 20, they seldom run more than half these spaces before they are obliged to mix either northward or southward with the insatiate ocean, except the Tamar, which rises within three or four miles of the sea northward, and pursuing its course for more than forty miles, between the two counties, collects several small streams, and pours them into the sea at Plymouth.

October 2d. More tranquil and pleasant than usual, we returned eastward again towards Leskard; instead of crossing the river the direct road, we deviated about a mile to view the ruins of Raistormal castle; the ancient residence of the dukes of Cornwall, situate on a large eminence behind Mr. Gregor's pleasant house, whose grounds and plantations, amidst a variety of natural inequalities of wood, hill, and vale, afford a charming scene. Carew speaks thus of this place, "Loftwithiel subjected itself to the command of Raistormal castle, *alias* Lestormel, sometimes the duke's principal house. It is seated in a park, upon the plain neck of a hill, backed to the westward with another somewhat higher, and falling every other way, to end in a valley, watered by the fishful river of Foy. Its base court is rather to be conjectured, than discerned, by the remnant of some few ruins; amongst which an oven of 14 feet largeness, through its exceeding proportion, proveth the like hospitality of those days. The inner court grounded upon an intrenched rock, was formed round, and its outer wall thick, strong, and garretted; its flat roof covered with lead, and its larger windowes taking their light inwards. It consisted of two stories, besides the vaults, and admitted entrance and issue, by one only gate, fenced with a portcouliz. Water was conveyed hither by a conduit, from the higher ground adjoining. Certes, it may move compassion, that a palace, so healthful for aire, so delightful for prospect, so necessary for commodities, so faire (in regard of those dayes) for building, and so strong for defence, should in time of secure peace, and under the protection of its natural princes, be wronged with those spoilings, than which it could endure no greater at the hands of any forrayne or deadly enemy: for the parke is disparked, the timber rooted up, the conduit pipes taken away, the roof made sale of, the planchings rotten, the walls falling downe, and the hewed stones of the windows, dournes, and clavels, pluckt out to serve private buildings, only there remaineth an utter defacement, to complayne upon this unreguarded distresse. It now appertayneth by lease, to master Samuel, who married Halse; his father (a wise and pleasant conceited gent.) matched with Tremayne."* We now ascended to inspect these ruins, a circular pile of strong walls, about thirty feet diameter within, 40 high, hung very picturelquely with ivy, &c. The materials are a most durable composition of hard cement and uneven shells of Elvin stone, so nicely fabricated as to appear at a small distance like one well wrought stone, or poured

* Carew's Survey, book 2d, p. 137.

as a fluid into frames. The entrance is by a projecting portal to the west, which displays the remains of six rooms, and a small chapel: on one side of which are the visible traces of a vase for holy water, and under this a small bath, to the east was a large altar piece; our guide said he had often found relicks of painted glass; and on the outside, in the surrounding fofs, he shewed us where he had dug up two perfect skeletons lying arm in arm; the surgeon from Loftwithiel pronounced them to be young men. At a small distance from hence is a considerable burying place, where bones have been often found. Descending to the house again, we crossed the river, and moved eastward through a grove of laurels and young oaks, which soon brought us to the turnpike road, on a wild extensive waste; no pleasing object to attract the eye, but a lofty pyramid on our right, belonging to lord Camelford, at Boconnock; while on our left the northern hills reared their barren heads like Scotia's craggs. Approaching Leskard we ascended a vast hill, through a wood called Lady Park, the property of lord Elliot, whose residence is at St. German's, about 6 miles south-east, near Plymouth, the stratum is a hard rock, without any mixture of mine, the road lately much improved.

Leskard is a large borough town, situate upon two hills, and the great part of the county, it has a fine old church, near which stood formerly a strong castle, now totally defaced, and nothing left but the name. It was formerly famous for a bishop's see; for about 905, when the discipline of the church was quite neglected in these parts, Edward the elder by a decree from pope Formosus, settled a see here; and granted the bishop of Kirton three villages, "Polton, Coeling and Lanwitham; that he might every year visit Cornwall; in order to remove their errors, for before that time they resisted the truth to the utmost, and would not submit to the apostolical decrees. William the Conqueror gave this place to Robert earl of Moreton, and it was afterwards given by Henry III. to Richard earl of Poitiers and Cornwall. His son Edward, who succeeded him, granted the inhabitants all the tolls for a quit-rent of 18l. *per annum*, and in the reign of Henry VIII. when the dutchy devolved to the crown, the same rent continued to be paid till the reign of William III. when it was given to the lord chancellor Sommers, Queen Elizabeth granted its charter; and the members are elected by the burgeses and freemen, the mayor being the returning officer, lord Elliot has now the interest. As this was St. Matthew's fair, of which they have three in the year, and three great markets, differing only in the latter being exempt from toll; we had an opportunity of observing it to advantage. The streets were mostly crowded with sheep and oxen; the former sold from twelve to eighteen pound per score, the latter about twenty pound a pair, four pound lower than when the harvest, &c. render their use more requisite. From hence we passed over several large cultivated hills and through St. Ives, a small village with a good tower church. The country still continues more mountainous, interspersed with rich vallies, &c. About two miles from Kellington see a curious hill rising conically out of the winding vale, near a small river called Lemara; the woods on the left are very noble and beautiful.

Kellington is a very old borough, with a good church and tolerable buildings; but is only a chapel of ease to South-hill. Here too the choice of a new mayor was joyfully expressed in ringing and festivity. The two members are here sent to parliament by the numerous votes of leaseholders, &c. under the influence of the earl of Orford and the government of a portrieve, which was established in 1583. Not to mention every particular, and mode of conducting the 22 boroughs of this county; it may not be amiss to notice the present situation of Helstone, which sends two members to parliament by a single vote, an old cobbler, the only survivor of a considerable charter, which

I believe has been renewed, but he will not give up his privilege; what an opportunity this is for providing for his family, &c. this interest belonged to the Godolphins. Grampound is in a similar situation. In the evening we proceeded over extensive heaths to Tavistock and crossed the river Tamar, in its course to Plymouth, over an excellent bridge of six arches, which divides the two counties. About three miles down this river on the Devon side, at Bear Alston, a borough of the duke of Northumberland's, are some rich lead and silver mines, the property of Mr. Gallet, which have been lately renewed, and yield now three or four plates of silver per month.

This is no doubt the place, where in the reign of Edward I. near 1600 weight of silver was obtained in the course of three years, the mine being discovered towards the beginning of his reign: it is called a silver mine by old writers, but it appears to have been a mine of lead which contained silver.* It is said there was a contest about these mines 14 Edward II. Sir John Maynard having purchased this manor, endeavoured to find them, but in vain. They have since lain dead till the last researches of the present fortunate possessor. It may not be amiss to add a short account of the method of procuring silver; since, properly speaking, our island boasts of neither gold nor silver mines. For this purpose I shall have recourse to our former author, whose essays on these chemical operations are so much the language of classical science. The general manner of extracting silver from lead is universally the same, simply depending upon the different essential properties of the two metals. It is an essential property of lead, when melted in the open air, to lose its metallic appearance, and to burn away into a kind of earth. It is an essential property of silver, not to burn away in the same manner when exposed to the action of the strongest fire, in the open air. Hence, when a mass of metal consisting of lead and silver, is melted in the open air, the lead will be burned to ashes, and the silver remaining unaltered, it is easy to understand how the silver may be extracted from the lead, for being heavier than the ashes of the lead, and incapable of mixing with them (since no metal is miscible with an earth) it will sink to the bottom of the vessel in which the mass is melted. For the same reason either gold or silver, or a mass of both, may be purified from iron, tin, and copper, by the mere operation of fusion. Silver is so commonly contained in lead, that it is esteemed a very great curiosity to meet with lead which is entirely free from it. Lister proves the existence of silver in the lead of at least thirty mines.† Yet notwithstanding we find at present but few so worked. Derbyshire, which is esteemed the richest for lead mines, yielding about 7,500 tons annually on an average, at present has no place where silver is extracted. There is a lead mine in Patterdale near Kewick, which yields much silver. Much silver is also extracted in Northumberland. Mr. Pennant in his tour through Wales, takes notice of the quantity of silver extracted at Holywell in Flintshire. The lead mines in Cardiganshire have at different periods afforded great quantities of silver; Sir Hugh Middleton is said to have cleared from them two thousand pounds a month.‡ Though this appears so beneficial a profit, yet there are many obstacles to prevent its being general. Various are the qualities of the lead ore in different mines, or in different parts of the same mine; for it is very possible in an assay of the ore in the same mine to meet with one piece, which shall afford a lead yielding 8 or 10 times as much silver, as another piece would do. The Derbyshire lead has been said to contain two grains of silver in a pound of lead. And in some parts of Great

* Hollingshed's Chron, vol. 2d. pag. 216. See also a further account of silver extracted from lead in the counties of Devon and Cornwall, in Edward III's time, page 413.

† Lister de Fontibus, cap. 2d. l. 9, 10.

‡ Oper. Min. explic. p. 245.

Britain, the ores though poor in lead, contain between 3 and 400 ounces of silver in a ton of lead, much silver is therefore probably thrown away for want of having the ores of the poorest sort properly assayed. That lead, which does not contain nine ounces of silver in a ton, is not thought worth refining, because of the loss of the lead; the smallest quantity therefore which can be extracted with profit, must depend much upon the price of lead, all expences attending the several processes being the same. It is calculated that the difference between the value of the silver obtained, and that of the lead lost, would, when lead is at 15*l.* a ton, be 1*l.* 10*s.* 9*d.* and when lead is as low as 12*l.* a ton, it would amount to 2*l.* 14*s.* 9*d.* The greatest obstacle to the proprietors of lead mines containing silver seems to be the clause, in that act of parliament passed in the 6th of William and Mary, respecting the right of pre-emption; whereby their majesties, their heirs, and successors, &c. should have the privilege of purchasing all the ore for nine pounds a ton. So that there may be many mines in England very rich in silver, which on account of the difficulty of working them, cannot be entered upon with advantage while this right subsists.

After a long ascent up an immense hill we soon arrived at Tavistock, lowly situated by the river Tave, on a sandy ground pretty well cultivated. The present state of this town is considerable, consisting of several tolerable streets with a large old church, the body of which appears like three common parish churches united. The glory of this place formerly was its abbey founded by Ordulph the son of Ordgar, earl of Devon and Cornwall, in the reign of king Edgar about 961. This Ordulf, (Malmesbury tells us,) says Camden, was of so gigantic a stature and so great strength, that he could break the bars of gates, and go striding over a river ten feet broad. Little now remains of this abbey, but a few old walls; a school was also erected here for preserving from oblivion the ancient Saxon language. Many of the abbots were men of eminence, and in the church of this monastery many persons of distinction were buried. Henry VIIIth gave John lord Russell, afterwards created earl of Bedford, the site of this monastery, with the borough and advowson of the church. This family are still lords of it, and since their promotion to a dukedom have the title of Marquis from hence. The borough was never incorporated, but is governed by a portreeve, annually chosen by freeholders at the lords-court; the interest consequently rests with the duke.

Instead of pursuing the right road over Dartmore forest by Moreton to Exeter, we deviated round the north side of this vast heap of mountains to see Lydford waterfall. This being market day we met numbers of the people flocking hither with grain, a few sheep and an abundance of Michaelmas geese. The common vehicles of this country are panniers and horses; nor did we meet a single carriage the whole day. Pass over an extensive down, with fine prospects on our left and Dartmore on our right; this part of the country is very coarse, moory and barren in its nature; in some places productive of nothing but a dwarf kind of furze; in others we see a considerable increase of tillage; owing chiefly to the cultivation of potatoes; the soil is mostly a stiff clay, which renders it unhealthy to sheep, which are here of a small sort, and subject to the rot, especially in wet seasons, which destroys them incredibly fast. In these parts which are too remote to obtain sea sand, they shave off the turf, and by burning it, procure excellent manure from its ashes, which mode of cultivation being first used here, is called Devonshiring or Denshiring. But this in reality was the Roman method, and is admirably described by Virgil*.

* Sæpe etiam steriles incendere profuit agros,
Atque levem stipulam crepitantibus urere flammis.

Geor. I. v, 84, 85.

Dartmore, where the river Dart has its rise, is a mountainous forest made by king John, and had formerly in it many tin mines. It is about twenty miles long, and fourteen broad, affording pasture for many thousand sheep and cattle, more healthful than its marshy skirts, from its rocky and dryer soil; from whence in a clear day the views are extensive and beautiful.

“David de Sciredun held lands in Sciredun and Sipleigh by knight-service, on condition that he should find two arrows, when our lord the king came to hunt in this forest.”

When the tin mines in the county were in a flourishing state, by a charter of Edward Ist, the tanners were obliged to assemble their court on a noted hill, between Tavistock and Chegford in this forest, called Crockentorr. In this desolate spot, where no refreshment could be found, no shelter, nor any seat but that of a moor stone, they generally met to the number of 200 or more. Having so far complied with the order of the charter, the next act of the steward was to adjourn the court to one of the stannery towns, usually Tavistock: where the price of the metal was fixed, all differences adjusted, and acts of regulation made. This meeting was called, “the parliament for the stanneries,” the place of meeting in the forest, “the parliament house;” and the presentment of the jurors, “acts of parliament.”

A few miles further we pass an immense rock, on the summit of which stands Brenttort church. This though 20 miles distant, is an excellent sea-mark to guide the ships about Plymouth. At the foot of the next descent, close on the left of the road, you will see a clump of trees; turn in at the gate, and enquire at the farm house of Mr. Candy, and some person will attend to the waterfall, about a quarter of a mile below. This remarkable cataract is formed by a small stream running into the river Lyd, over a romantic rock, sweetly clothed with wood, which appears in various interfections in this vale. Winding down the rock, on a small path about half way, you are presented with the finest milky streams imaginable, neither too perpendicular to be one confused heap, nor too much divided to be ungraceful; but one continued silvery chain of 200 feet; towards the bottom the rock projects so favourably as to fill the air with aqueous particles, and imitate the effect of a real fountain, softly falling in a silver shower. Descending beneath you look up to the whole with a similar enchantment. The late ruins were just sufficient to fill it to perfection; and we only wanted the soft beams of moon light, to realize that fairy scene, so sweetly described in lord Mornington's musical elegy:

“Near a cool grot and mossy cell,
We rural fays and fairies dwell, &c.

The surprising waterfall pleased me altogether more than any in the North of England or Scotland, and being a greater rarity in those parts it is more valuable and striking. Camden seems not to have been acquainted with it, though it must have existed many ages, as he mentions, not a mile beyond, the bridge approaching Lydford, where the little river Lyd, being pent up within the rocks, has made itself so deep a fall, by a continual working, that the water is not to be seen, but only the murmur, or in high water rather thunder “heard, to the great astonishment of those that pass over.” This is the case on horseback, or in a carriage, but whoever looks attentively on foot, may see the flowing torrent rushing impetuously through the narrow confines of the rock, at the distance of 100 feet from the battlements of the bridge. Lydford now reduced to a small village, was formerly a town of note, which sent burgesses to parliament, but for its poverty has long since been discharged of that privilege; the ruins of a gaol-like castle,

castle are still visible. From hence nothing occurs till we come to the village of Sourton; whence opens a charming prospect towards the west of a rich vale, &c. terminated by distant mountains. As we approach Okehampton, vulgarly called Ockington, the beauties of the forest hang gracefully on the skirts of Dartmore, but for this we are mostly indebted to the remains of the old park, where once the earls of Devonshire had a noble castle, now quite in ruins, which till late belonged to the Courtenays of Powderham-castle, near Exeter, but is now exchanged away to some part of the corporation. The castle stands a little west of the centre of the county, and near the town of Okehampton. It was built by Baldwin de Brioniis; who, as appears by domesday-book, was in possession of it when that survey was taken. From his descendants the Rivers's, earls of Devon, it devolved by marriage to the Courtneys, earls of Devon. In that family it remained till seized by King Edward IV., on account of their attachment to the house of Lancaster; in which cause, Thomas de Courtnay, and his brother John, both lost their lives; the first being taken at the battle of Towton, 1461, was carried to Pontefract, and there beheaded; his head was set up at York, in the place of that of the Duke of York; the latter was killed at Tewksbury. Edward granted this castle, honor and manor, to sir John Dynham; by whom they were soon afterwards forfeited. King Henry VII. on coming to the throne, restored to the Courtneys their ancient honors and possessions amongst which was this castle; but in the reign of Henry Courtney, the then possessor, was executed for a treasonable correspondence with cardinal Pole, and it once more escheated to the crown; when that king caused the castle and a fine park thereunto belonging, to be dismantled and destroyed. He likewise imprisoned Edward the son and heir of the late earl; who continued in confinement till released by queen Mary; by whom he was reinstated in the rank and fortune of his ancestors. He leaving no male issue, the estate was carried by marriage into the family of the Mohuns, barons of Mohun and Okhampton; whose male line likewise becoming extinct, by the death of the lord Mohun, killed 1712, by the duke of Hamilton, in a duel, the estate descended to Christopher Harris, of Heynes, esq. he having married the heiress of that family. The view taken by Mr. Grose, 1761, gives a just and lively representation of its ruins; having only part of the keep, and some fragments of high walls remaining; the solidity of which, together with their advantageous situation, and the space they occupy, clearly evince that, when entire, it was both strong and extensive.

This ancient borough stands in a vale on the river Oke, whence it has its name; at a mile distance from the parish church, beautifully situated on a hill amidst a thick grove. Here is a small manufacture similar to the rest of the towns in this county, but in the annals of history we find this place much more considerable than at present. The members of parliament are chosen by the freemen and freeholders, and the interest now rests with the duke of Bedford. Here we dined and had our usual compliment, so peculiar to this county, of tarts and clotted cream, a composition to me more pleasing than any thing of the kind I had ever tasted. This essence of milk is gathered by scalding their whole quantity together in the state it comes from the cow, and letting it stand about a day, and then skimming off the top; by which means they have a greater quantity, but the milk is quite impoverished.

In the evening we proceeded to Crockernwell, the half-way house to Exeter; which though not the most desirable inn, afforded us a comfortable repose, and in the morning early, genial and soft as the two preceding days, which with the brighter influence of the sun, appeared more charming in autumnal tints than fairest May;

“ — The fading many-colour'd woods
 Shade deep'ning over shade, the country round
 Imbrown; a crowded umbrage, dusk and deep,
 Of every hue, from wan declining green
 To sooty dark.”

Here we overcame the difficulties of hills by an additional post horse, and moved with expedition amidst delightful scenery to the fair city we had lately passed through, and now breakfasted where we this day week had dined.

It now occurs to me to mention an idea of grandeur and opulence not to be found elsewhere in Great Britain, if on the whole face of the globe; (viz.) that by a more rapid abbreviation of this western tour, you might sleep twelve nights at twelve different cities, (viz.) London, Oxford, Worcester, Hereford, Gloucester, Bristol, Bath, Wells, Exeter, Salisbury, Winchester and Westminster. This idea is still more enlarged when we consider the superiority of our English roads, inns, and every convenience to facilitate travelling. When we hear of the comparative difficulties our forefathers had to struggle with even since the last forty years, we are astonished at the difference. What was then deemed a journey of some days, and not to be attempted without the utmost precaution and meditation, is now accomplished with the greatest ease in a few hours. It may not be an unprofitable deviation here to trace this great source of comfort and public utility from an early period to the present time. The visible progression in improvements whether in arts, sciences, manufactures, agriculture, &c. ought ever to be the prime objects of our researches and the delight of our leisure hours. By degrees, after many benefits gradually gained, an intelligent nation extends its views to the highest attainment of perfection. Having supplied itself with an extensive produce of its own wealth, the next object was to promote a commodious communication between its several parts by means of rubbish roads, causeways and bridges. The Romans were distinguished by their attention to the straightness, solidity, and admirable disposition of their roads, which, though used for other purposes, were chiefly intended for military ways; and this œconomy of theirs was carried through all the provinces of their extensive empire. The intention of these military ways was worthy of the genius, and expressive of the policy of that wise and potent people. They were so many links uniting the provinces to the seat of Empire. That they were very numerous, is confirmed by the remains, which are still to be seen in many countries. In the Itinerary of Antoninus there are fifteen roads, with the stations marked upon them, and the distances between in miles, which taken together, make a total of 2579 miles, the construction of which must have necessarily consumed much time, required much toil, and demanded immense treasures. It is however remarkable, that scarce in any of the countries they possessed there are still remaining more authentic monuments of these useful and stupendous works than in Great Britain, which with indefatigable pains and most extensive learning have been studiously traced, accurately described, and the stations on them with all possible certainty pointed out by many excellent antiquaries. The Saxons, when they became masters of the southern parts of this isle, shewed great respect to these ancient roads, as appears by the names they bestowed on them. The law *De Pace Quatuor Cheminorum*, and the appellation still in use, of the king's highways, shew how much they were respected. The four great roads were the Fosse, Watling-street, Erming or Ermin, called also Beling-street, and Ikeneld, Ryknild, or Rykeneld-street. About which the learned are much divided; but the inroads of the Danes, which occasioned such general desolation; the Norman conquest; and the long continuance of civil wars, had no doubt the most fatal effects upon these, as well as the trade and agriculture of this

this country. When the nation had time to breathe, and its interior peace was restored, industry, the parent of domestic trade, and public welfare, renewed its vigour, and having gained one advantage grasped immediately at another. And by this means laws respecting the public utility became absolutely necessary. By the statute of Winchester in the reign of Edward I., some provision is made for the security of highways, by suffering no wood to grow within 200 feet on one side or other, that passengers might not be surprized by thieves. In the time of Henry VIII., some laws were enacted for preserving and amending causeways, and for facilitating the making new and more commodious roads, by giving to such as made them legally through their own lands, the property of the soil, &c. At length it became requisite to take more stable methods for a constant and regular communication, which produced in respect to roads, a kind of system: the origin of which may be found in stat. 2 and 3 Phil. and Mar. cap. 8. The preamble declares, that the roads were tedious and noisome to travel in, and dangerous to passengers and carriages. For the remedy of this, it is enacted, that in every parish, surveyors of the highways shall be chosen, and the inhabitants obliged, according to their respective properties, to find labourers and carriages for a certain number of days to work thereon.

A new mode was introduced about the middle of the last century, by applying to the legislature to establish tolls for amending old, and making new roads, so that by a gradual extension of these turnpike ways, the whole kingdom is highly benefited, and become much more pervious than the rest of the world. The attention of the legislature in regulating the commissioners and other officers; the size, extent and goodness of the roads in general, as well as the rate of tolls, with a multitude of other particulars, prove an intention of approaching towards perfection in the plan; nor is the execution, as far as human abilities will allow, deficient. In consequence of this judicious, though expensive arrangement, the land carriage of this country corresponds most harmoniously with its commerce; and as plenty obeys the call of industry, we find both spread by this means into almost every corner of the island. To these may be added the numerous, commodious and even magnificent inns, on all these spacious, and well frequented roads, which peculiarly distinguish this country. And it is a just observation, that nothing can afford a clearer indication of the true state of a country and its inhabitants, than the public inns. In some of the chief cities in Germany, and the Low Countries, they are highly commended; passable in France; celebrated at Lyons; plentiful in Switzerland; indifferent in Italy; worse in Spain; and still worse in Poland. In this country, business and pleasure support them, and constant emulation hath made them in most places commodious, in some, splendid and superb. All these circumstances duly weighed, and maturely considered, fully demonstrate the rectitude of that principle, on which these stupendous improvements were undertaken, and which do so much honor to the activity, vigour, and steadiness with which, in so short a space of time, they have been and are still carried on, with such evident advantages to individuals and such general credit to the nation.

Amongst the innumerable benefits that have arisen, from the great improvements of our roads, the quick and certain correspondence by the post is the most conspicuous. This invention we find attributed by Herodotus to Cyrus the Great; and his successors in the empire of Persia, appointed 111 royal stations, or post houses, to convey their edicts from, and intelligence to their capital city of Suza. The Greeks and Romans adopted this Persian institution. Charlemagne settled posts as emperor through all his dominions; Lewis XI. revived them in France. This mode of conveying intelligence was adopted many ages ago in other countries, and even in our own, but in a rude and im-

perfect state, till the long parliament in the reign of Charles I. reduced into some order what had been before a thing of little consequence, and by giving it a regular and uniform establishment, may be said to have struck out the rudiments of what it now is. In this reign it came to be considered in a proper light, as a thing that might be rendered beneficial to the crown, and of infinite utility to the nation. A. D. 1635, a proclamation was published, regulating the rates of postage, and pointing out what we stile the north and west roads, so that probably if the troubles had not broke out soon after, the post-office might gradually have been brought into good order. This was much improved, and legally settled by parliament soon after the restoration, and the several branches of it, foreign as well as domestic, very judiciously regulated, and the rates of postage adjusted on moderate terms. This method was attended with such beneficial consequences, that in the reign of Queen Anne, a post-master general was appointed, who is authorised to appoint others at Edinburgh, Dublin, New York, &c. and through all the provinces on the Continent; and in all the British isles in America. From this period it received continual augmentations, and by a law in his present majesty's reign, some new regulations were made for rendering the carriage of letters cheaper and more commodious: but that recent improvement of the ingenious and spirited Mr. Palmer eclipses every other, and in spite of all opposition is confirmed, from a supposed speculation, to a permanent system; by which means while mankind are furnished with more elegant public vehicles, and their lives and property safely protected, a correspondence the most uniform and free is carried on with the utmost facility, celerity and security, through the wide expanse of the British dominions. And Britain is now truly the seat of empire, the centre of commerce, and the haven of repose*.

In order to compleat the remainder of our tour, much resembling in its outlines a figure of 8, we now directed our course south-east towards Dorchester. About half a mile from this city we pass the ancient and extensive pile of the laudable workhouse or hospital before described; two miles beyond this, where the Topsham road parts to the right, is Heavytree gallows†, with a square piece of ground enclosed by a strong wall, for the burial of sufferers; a plan I never remember to have seen before. The road now in a more gravelly soil was excellent and uninterrupted by tedious hills; the surrounding inclosures of arable and pasture, glowed with fertility; while the happy seedsman, scattering round his showers of grain, hail'd the smiling season with the voice of melody. Thus we journied on till we came within six miles of Honiton, from the brow of which hill we were presented with the sweetest scene of cultivation I ever beheld. This may be called the garden of Devon, not only from its own intrinsic superiority, but the beauteous order in which it is disposed; a fine amphitheatre of meadow and arable inclosure gradually ascending towards the south, in the highest cultivation, up to its natural boundary of open hills, ranged in all the uniformity of a perfect wall; to the east and north appears a similar circular defence, but not so strongly marked. Descending into this lovely vale, we saw on our left Estcott, the seat of sir George Yonge, a fine old place of good architecture and beautifully situated. A little farther the river Otter forms a sweet winding canal, where we pass a very picturesque scene of cots and ivy mantled bridges. This spot now only a decayed village called Veniton, is famous for a battle fought against the Cornish rebels in the reign of Edward VI. We now met numbrs of market people with panniers, crookes and gambades. Honiton is a neat

* Campbell's Survey.

† So named from the adjacent village,

market town situate on the river Otter ; the country around it is beautiful. It was held before the conquest by Drago, a Saxon ; in the Norman survey, it is described under the title of *Terra Comitum Moritonensis*, or lands belonging to Robert earl of Morton, half brother to the Conqueror, to whom he gave great possessions in these parts, and made him earl of Cornwall. We afterwards find these lands bestowed by Henry I. on Richard de Redvers, created earl of Devon, lord of Okehampton, &c. From this family the title and lands of the earls of Devon came to the Courtenays. This manor therefore being bestowed by Hugh Courtenay, upon his fifth son Philip, of Powderham Castle, near Exeter, has continued in his posterity, and is now part of the possessions of Viscount Courtenay, of that beautiful place. This town sends members to parliament, under the government of a portreeve, chosen annually at the court of the lord of the manor, who makes the return of the members elected by all the inhabitants called burgage-holders. The present condition of this town, is indebted to a dreadful fire, which broke out on July 19th, 1747, and reduced three parts of it to ashes, to the great distress of several hundred industrious inhabitants. The houses now wear a pleasing aspect, and the principal street extending from east to west is remarkably paved, forming a small channel well shouldered up on each side with pebbles and green turf, which holds a stream of clear water with a square dipping place opposite each door ; a mark of cleanliness and convenience I never saw before. The first manufacture of serges was introduced into Devonshire at this town, but at present it is employed chiefly in making lace. It may be worth remarking, that the market day was here held before the reign of King John on Sunday, but changed by his direction it still continues on Saturday, which we now saw. After dining at an excellent inn, we proceeded over vast hills surrounded with beautiful vales ; from the top of Honiton hill the landscape may vie with any part of this kingdom.

Axminster, where we now arrived to repose, is a considerable market town, situate on the river Axe, from whence, together with a minster erected here by King Athelstan, it has its name. This foundation was for seven priests, but afterwards reduced to two, for whom a portion of land was allotted, called priest-aller ; which with the parsonage now belongs to two prebendaries of York, to pray for souls buried here, who were slain at the battle of Brunaburg, in a field which is at present called Kingsfield. The manufacture of this place is chiefly carpets, and esteemed superior to the Wilton, being worked by the pliant fingers of small children, from patterns and colours laid before them. Thirteen shillings per yard is the lowest price, and from thence their value may be increased almost to any sum.

Leaving this town we soon enter Dorsetshire, the stratum changes to sand and white flint. The road passes several miles on a noble terrace, the sea boldly swelling on our right, various cliffs and Portland island rising in front, with a charming vale on our left scooped into variety of amphi theatres, &c. We now came opposite to Lyme, or Lyme Regis, so called from a rivulet of that name, on which it stands. At the time of the conquest we find it annexed to the abbey of Sherborne, a considerable place on the north borders of the county ; but Richard I. bestowed great privileges on it, which were confirmed by succeeding monarchs. In the reign of Henry V. during the wars between England and France this town was reduced to ashes : but being a royal demesne, the king forgave those distressed inhabitants the quit rent, which enabled them to rebuild the town. However it did not flourish for many years, as Camden describes it to be a poor inconsiderable place. In the reign of James I. the merchants having engaged in trade to Newfoundland, acquired large fortunes and raised the town considerably ; and afterwards King William confirmed their ancient privileges by a new charter

ter under the government of a mayor, 15 burgesſes, &c. But what moſt claims the notice of a traveller, is its famous pier and harbour, eſteemed one of the beſt in Europe. Though we could not now conveniently viſit it, yet I have had ſufficient information to juſtify a ſhort account. Having neither creek nor bay, nor any other natural convenience for a port, the ingenuity of the inhabitants has, by great art and labour, conſtructed a maſſy pile of building, which conſiſts of high and thick walls, whoſe materials were vaſt rocks weighed up out of the ſea. The principal extends ſome diſtance from the ſhore into the main ſea, and ſo large as to admit of various buildings and warehouses, with a ſtreet for carriages to paſs along. Oppoſite to this is a ſimilar conſtruction, which croſſes the end of the firſt and then forms a parallel to it. Ships enter this port by the point of the firſt wall, while the ſecond breaking the violence of the ſea, they paſs into the baſon, and ride with all the calmneſs and ſecurity of a wet dock. This curious work is called a cobb, and firm enough to carry any number of guns; which they have not yet thought neceſſary, but only plant a few guns in proper parts of this noble pier, and the town. One would imagine that this ſurprizing mode of conſtructing a port, ſo much admired by all viſitors and highly ſpoken of by moſt writers, would be eagerly imitated upon every part of our coaſt, where the convenience of country, and the opening ſuch a port might prove a mutual advantage.

Lyme was the landing place of the unfortunate duke of Monmouth, June 11th, 1685; who undertook to aſſert his right to the crown as ſon to Charles II.; the imprudence of which enterpriſe did not at firſt appear; and ſo popular was his name amongſt the lower people, that in a few days his original number of followers was increaſed from 100 to above 2000 horſe and foot. At Axmiſter the Devon militia to the number of 4000 men were aſſembled under the duke of Albemarle, ſon to him who had reſtored the royal family; from theſe however he met with no difficulty. The next ſtation of the rebels was Taunton, a diſaffected town, which gladly received them, and even re-inforced them with conſiderable numbers. Even the voice of the fair, according to Hume, here joined in the common cry of this rebellion, and they preſented Monmouth with a pair of colours of their handiwork, together with a copy of a bible. He was here too perſuaded to aſſume the title of King, and aſſert the legitimacy of his birth: he was now obliged daily, for want of arms to diſmiſs many who crowded to his ſtandard. He entered Bridgewater, Wells, Frome; and was proclaimed in all theſe places. But while he by his imprudent and miſplaced caution was thus waſting time in the weſt, the king was more active in his preparations to oppoſe him; fix regiments of Britiſh troops were called over from Holland, which together with a conſiderable augmentation to the army, were diſpatched under the command of Feverſham and Churchill, in order to check the progreſs of the rebels. Sedgemoor near Bridgewater was the ſeat of the engagement; in which action Monmouth's men ſhewed what a native courage and a principle of duty, even when unaſſiſted by diſcipline is able to perform. And their efforts would have terminated in a victory, had not the miſconduct of Monmouth, and the cowardice of Gray, who commanded his horſe prevented it. After a combat of three hours the rebels were forced to fly amidſt a ſlaughter of about 1500. Monmouth, after many attempts to conceal himſelf, was at length taken in a ſituation which human nature could ſcarce ſupport; his body depressed with fatigue and hunger, his mind by the memory of paſt miſfortunes, and the proſpect of future diſaſters; and to heighten his miſery, like Ruſſel he ſeverely felt the repeated feeble blows of the executioner.

We now deſcended to the ſweet village of Charmouth, ſituate cloſe to the ſea. At this little ſpot the pirating Danes had the fortune to beat the Engliſh in two engagements;
firſt

first conquering King Egbert, 831; and then King Æthelwulf eight years after. The children ran after us with prawns taken here in great abundance and perfection; also with ores, shells, &c. Meeting William Loyd, a labourer, we were induced to accompany him to see his collection of the most curious fossil world. His cottage affording no convenience for this purpose, they are displayed in the open garden; those who are desirous of viewing such wonderful operations of nature, may here satisfy their curiosity by only deviating a few yards from the road; and those who are desirous of adding to their collection for grottos, chimney pieces, &c. may here find materials on the lowest terms.

In the Philosophical Transactions, (Vol. lvi. No. 22,) is the following account of an uncommon phenomenon, near this place, by John Stephens, M. A. "In August, 1751, after very hot weather, followed by sudden rain, the cliffs near Charmouth, in the western parts of Dorsetshire, began to smoke, and soon after to burn with a visible but subtle flame; the same phenomena were observed at intervals, especially after rain, till winter, the flame however was not visible by day, except the sun shone, when the cliffs appeared at a distance as if covered with pieces of glass which reflected the rays: at night the flame was visible at a distance, but when the spectator drew near, he could perceive smoke only, and no flame: a similar flame has been seen rising from the lodes, or veins of the mines in Cornwall, with this difference, that when the spectator approached, the flame did not disappear, but seemed to surround him, yet did him no harm, and in four or five minutes seemed to sink into the earth. Upon examining Charmouth cliffs, a great quantity of martial pyrites were found, with marcasites that yielded near a tenth of common sulphur, of cornua ammonis, and other shells, and the belemnites, all crusted with pyritical matter: these substances were found not in regular strata, but interspersed in large masses through the earth, which consisted of a dark coloured loam, impregnated with bitumen to the depth of 40 feet; there was also found a dark coloured substance like coal cinder, which being powdered and washed, and the water being slowly evaporated to a pellicle, its salts, which shot into crystals, appeared to be a martial vitriol. Mr. Stephens laid about 100lb. of all these substances in a heap exposed to the air, and sprinkled them every day with water; in about ten days they grew hot, soon after caught fire, burnt several hours, and fell into dust. The fire of this mass he supposes to be the same with that of the cliffs, and to be produced by the same causes.

Ascending the winding hills again, we are charmed with similar beautiful scenery. The land is not so rich as in parts we had lately passed; but they manure plentifully with lime, which makes it worth, on an average, 20s. per acre. Flax* is here raised

* Flax is a vegetable well known, assiduously cultivated, and in the highest esteem from all antiquity, being celebrated by Herodot. &c. as one of the most lucrative branches of commerce. The scriptures also frequently mention the fine linen of Egypt; the principal argument used to prove the people of Colchos were an Egyptian colony, was their proficiency in this manufacture. In Pliny's time the culture and even the manufacture of flax, seem to have reached those countries, in which they still flourish. It is found by experience that with proper attention it may be raised on almost every soil of Great Britain; and the profit is seldom less than 10l. an acre, besides affording employment and subsistence to the industrious poor. But when we consider the benefits that arise from this commodity when it comes into the hands of the manufacturers, it must appear to be a national object of the greatest importance. The Dutch, who understand both the culture and manufacture of flax better than any other nation in the world, prefer their own seed, raised on the stiff clays of Zealand, to any that they receive from the northern parts of Europe: but the flax employed in their manufactures grows on a light, warm, gravelly soil, and owes its beauty and fineness to their sedulous care in manuring, cultivating, and dressing it. We have the same diversity of land and much more of them than the Dutch, and therefore, if we took equal pains, we might soon be released from the necessity of importing. In 1695, according to Mr. Houghton, we imported

raised very much; apples in abundance; whose cyder sells now, as in Somersetshire, from 7s. to 12s. per hoghead. As we proceed, a noble view presents itself across the sea, down the Devon coast to Topsham, Plymouth, &c.

Dine at Bridport, a very neat town, whose principal street is remarkably spacious, well-built, and paved; about the middle stands an excellent new market house, with good rooms over it for all public purposes, only finished this year. This town was anciently very considerable; in the reign of Edward the Confessor the number of houses were about 120, which made it great in those days; but we find in William the Conqueror's time they were reduced to 100. Again it recovered its greatness. King Henry III. created it a borough; Henry VII. Queen Elizabeth, and James I. established the corporation with many privileges; it is governed by two bailiffs, and a recorder, and sends two members to parliament. The piers and harbour, which once added greatly to its flourishing state, are all gone to ruin, so that there is no security for ships driven by stress of weather into this deep and perilous bay. The soil being rich and strong, this neighbourhood produces an abundance of hemp*, and the inhabitants are very adept in twisting all sorts of ropes, nay, so famous were they in this manufacture formerly, that, by a statute made in the reign of Henry VII. it was ordered that all the cordage for the navy should, for a limited time, be made here, or within five miles of this place, and no where else. At present great quantities of twine, nets, &c. are manufactured here.

After dinner we proceeded to Weymouth. The stratum now changes to real black flint and chalk; a more varied and beautiful country is scarce to be found than the greater part of this evening's journey affords; hills and dales tossed about in the wildest manner of well-fringed inclosures, form the variegated landscapes of the first three or four miles. These sweeps of inclosures gradually expand till they become immense downy hills and deep vales; near the 5th mile-stone, look a little to the left and you will be struck with a most picturesque scene; a bold, circular, gently swelling hill rises out of a vast hollow with peculiar effect, near to which a small tuft of inclosures seems wildly tossed beneath to decorate the vale with softest inequalities. About the 6th stone you behold a spot infinitely more elegant; a circular hollow scooped in a vast hill of the sweetest verdure; were it not for the difference of colour and texture, a more exact idea cannot be given of its beautiful appearance, than by comparing them to those soft waves one sees in driven snow. Nor are these velvet mixtures of hill and dale, sometimes rising boldly abrupt, and sometimes very gentle, more gratifying to the eye than the food of them is delightful, and beneficial to the fleecy flocks that brouze abundantly all over them.

imported 495 ton of flax. In 1763, from Russia, 161,756 pounds, or 2576 tons. In our sister island this has been made an object of national attention: they saw clearly that to gain and preserve the linen manufacture, it was necessary to raise flax, for which purpose they gave a bounty of 5s. a barrel on the importation of flax or hemp-seed; they gave this gratis to such as would sow their lands therewith; they gave bounties of 10s. 8s. and 6s. on every 100lb. of 35, 30, and 20s. an 100 in value; they gave their freedom in country corporations to all hemp and flax dressers; and they held out a premium on every bushel of seed, when at 5s. a bushel, which should be exported*.

* Campbell's Survey of Great Britain, vol. ii. p. 90.

† Hemp is another vegetable too well known to need any description; the same remarks may be made with regard to the benefit arising from the cultivation of this, as have been made just before on flax, and even much stronger arguments used to support it, there being almost ten times the quantity of hemp imported which shews the immense saving that would arise, if we could raise this, or the greater part of it, at home

The place we next came to was Winterburn, remarkable for a marshy spring called the Werry, which bursts out in this season of the year; continuing to flow all winter, and at a certain time in spring it ceases, and remains dry all summer. Instead of continuing the road to Dorchester, we now descended to the right through a kind of half inclosure interrupted by gates, which brought us to the pleasant village of Up-way, ornamented with several good houses, &c. From hence through Broad-way we soon arrived at the Hotel Weymouth, or rather Melcomb-regis; which two places are separated by the river Wey, and were distinct boroughs formerly, and always at variance about their privileges, so that they were deprived of them by Henry VIth. But Queen Elizabeth restored them on condition that they should make but one corporation: by which union they enjoy their common rights and flourish together. A wooden bridge of many arches unites them; the former looks small and dirty, but the latter is improved by all the advantage of good building and spacious streets; amongst which are many excellent lodgings; but the range of buildings called Gloucester-row, York-buildings, and the Esplanade, are the most elegant and desirable, from their contiguity to the sands, which are naturally the best and most convenient for the purpose of bathing, in the kingdom; being within a beautiful semicircular bay of near two miles, most happily protected from winds and tempests by the surrounding hills, which, while they afford security to the most timid valetudinarian, for the enjoyment of this marine salutary exercise, also present the most picturesque view to every window of these lodgings. The assembly room is a lofty and spacious building, adjoining the hotel kept by Mr. Stacie, from the Bedford Arms, London, who attends in the season, and has, besides every other indulgence for company, an excellent boat for schemes upon the water.

In the morning tedious rain confined us within doors several hours; but clearing up about one, we drove to see the isle of Portland, commonly so called, though in fact no more than a peninsula, as it is joined to the main land by a prodigious beach, or ridge of pebbles; parallel to which runs a narrow creek which you ferry over. To contemplate this wonderful wall washed up by the sea, you should ride or walk along its summit, where you will see more fully the extent and security of this immovable bulwark, whose materials are mostly equal in size to a walnut at the water side, gradually diminishing to common gravel, and though uncemented, are capable of resisting the most outrageous storms, and of preserving the adjacent country from a destructive inundation.

The two castles on the opposite shores, named Portland and Sandsfoot, were built in the reign of Henry VIII. about 1539, but have nothing now to attract our notice. From beneath the beach we drove to this mountainous island, taking its name (according to Camden) from one Port, a noble Saxon, who in 703 much infested and annoyed this coast; it is about nine miles round, and divided into seven villages, all belonging to one parish. The first we arrived at is called Chiswell; the next Fortune's-well; on the hill stands Rayfourth and Wakeham; to the east is East-town; to the west, West-town; and on the south, Southwell. The inhabitants are computed about 1700. We stopt at the Portland-arms during a violent storm; the windows looking over that immense beach plainly shewed us the danger of ships being embayed and lost here; when coming from the westward, they omit to keep a good offing, and cannot weather the high land of Portland. After this violent shower, we procured saddle horses, and went directly across to the south-side; having mounted the vast hill from Fortune-well, we see the whole island, now a flat surface almost every way, and divided into large inclosures, by stone walls, for the purpose of growing corn and feeding
 6 that

that small breed of sheep universally admired for their flavour; but the whole has a dreary uncomfortable aspect, entirely destitute of wood and fuel. The quarries for getting that inimitable stone, of which all our best buildings are formed, are seen in almost every part of this island; but they were no curiosity to us after that subterraneous mode at Bath. Proceeding directly across, we saw the ruins of the old castle, which site, before the invention of ordnance, might seem impregnable; yet was it both forced and won by Robert earl of Gloucester, 1143, in behalf of his sister, Maude, the Empress, when she waged war against King Stephen. At this place, in 1588, the Spaniards, with their supposed invincible army, strove to land; but being prevented by the English, a strenuous fight ensued, which forced them to acknowledge that title false; when many hundreds perished, and two of their great ships were brought into Weymouth. From hence you have a noble view of the race of Portland, so called from the meeting of the two tides, or striving of the currents, mid-way between this and the French coast. This agitation of the waves is often so dangerous, that scarce any vessel can pass over it in the calmest season; and ships, not aware of these currents, have been embayed to the west of Portland, and lost on the beach above-mentioned. Before we quitted the south side, we saw the small remains of the ancient church, whose foundation the rolling sea began to undermine. Indeed the cliffs along this side are wonderfully rent; one in particular, to the right of this old church, is very striking; the immense mass of stone, apparently separated from the main body by some violent convulsion, forms a chasm wildly magnificent. From hence too we plainly see Peverel Point, a vast heap of undermined rocks, at the corner of the island of Purbeck, whose attractive chasm threatens destruction on all who approach them. This was the spot where the unfortunate Halfwell East Indiaman, and most of its crew, met with their untimely fate. The wind blowing hard, and the waves rolling high, recalled that shocking scene more warmly to our imagination. We now returned to our inn, where the landlord, Gibbs, shewed us a very curious relick of Saxon antiquity, called the Reve-poll, which, in lieu of a rent-roll, exhibits a very ancient mode of keeping accounts; as on this staff is marked every acre of land on the island; by which means the bailiff collected the king's dues, as lord of the manor, at the rate of three-pence per acre, distinguished by different sized cuts, from a farthing to ten shillings and seven-pence farthing, the highest rent paid. As we departed from hence, the people crowded round us with various curiosities, found about this island, of ore, spar, fossils, &c. but the most curious production is a kind of sea-weed, mentioned by Camden, called isidis plocamon, or isis hair, not unlike coral. We now hastened back to the hotel at Weymouth, where we enjoyed a late dinner, accompanied by music of the roaring waves.

In the morning I arose early; the sea and the air were very favourable for bathing and fishing; the machines for the former purpose, near 30 in number, were busily employed, while those floating vehicles for the latter glided up and down amidst the reflected beams of the new risen sun, dancing on the surface of the gently agitated water; which, together with the transparent sky, so softly hanging on the horizon, and the mountainous hills and chalky cliffs around, presented the most beautiful picture imaginable; such as I only remember to have seen in Louthburgh's Eidophusicon; an elegant representation of moving transparent pictures, exhibited in Exeter 'Change a few years ago, to imitate in miniature what nature thus displays on her real and unrivaled scale.

From hence to Dorchester, eight miles, we went to breakfast. Ascending Ridgeway-hill, the extensive prospect of sea and country is delightful. Beyond this, on the

right, is an old mansion, called Rerrington, the ancient seat of the Williams's, descended from sir John Williams, who, as Coker says, by his buildings and other ornaments, much beautified this place. On the left, immediately behind the village of Monckton, we walked to inspect one of the most perfect remains of an ancient fortification in this kingdom, vulgarly called Maiden castle, on tradition that it was never forced nor won*. But it is thought with greater probability, by our more judicious antiquaries, to have been a summer station of the Romans; it consists of a treble foss and rampart, each very deep and high, surrounding an inner area, near 40 acres, to which are only two places of entrance. Such as have curiously viewed this place, have likewise traced out the particular uses of each part, as, the western, facing the Prætorium, to have been for the foot, which could not contain less than three legions, or about 18,000 men; the east part, behind the Prætorium, to have been for the horse and carriages; and between both were seated the tribunes and other officers. A number of barrows are seen thrown up on the downs around, which, from time to time, have been opened, without any great success; only finding a few human bones and coins. From hence the prospect is very extensive, and takes in some of the hills on the isle of Wight. As we continue this road, within half a mile of Dorchester, close on the right, is another extraordinary relick, called Mambury, perfectly resembling a Roman amphitheatre, inclosing about an acre of ground, and such as one may easily imagine to have contained some thousand spectators beholding such sports and exercises as were usual among the ancients.

Dorchester, the capital of this county, is a town of great antiquity, which Antonine, in his Itinerarium, calls Durnovaria, i. e. a passage over the river, being situated where the Frome, dispersing itself, maketh a kind of island, and running from hence through Wareham, empties itself into the sea at Poole. In the time of the Romans, it was one of the two winter stations said to have been in these parts; and indeed the ancient walls, the Via Iceniana, the foss-way on which it stands, the coins and other pieces of antiquity, together with those adjacent marks of encampments, &c. above described, are proofs sufficient of its former consequence; though Camden speaks of it as being then "neither large nor beautiful, the walls having been pulled down by the enraged Danes, who here and there about the town have thrown up several barrows." The present appearance of this town is neat and handsome, and its flourishing condition very different from what, according to Coker, it was in Edward III.'s time, when they were forced to petition the king, for abating part of their fee-farm, or rent, "by reason the houses were left desolate, and trade failed amongst them," as the words of the petition are. That dreadful fire in 1631, which consumed almost the whole town, except the large church of St. Peter, and a few surrounding houses, the loss being computed at 200,000*l.* gave rise to its regularity and goodness of buildings; now consisting of three principal streets, spacious and well paved, which meet in the centre. Here are three churches, a good market place, and a town hall, for holding the assizes, &c. being under the government of a mayor, bailiffs, and burgeses. It had anciently a castle in that place where the Grey-friars built their convent out of the ruins thereof, and hath now but three parish churches; whereas the compass of the old town seems to have been very large. In what state it stood soon after the coming of the Normans, Domesday book will best shew us. "In King Edward's reign there

* Maiden is more properly derived from magnus, whence we have main in the same sense. As the Maiden tower at Windsor signified the great tower, the Maiden down in Wiltshire, &c. Maidenhead town in Berkshire, was formerly Maiden Hythe, signifying a great port.

were 170 houses; these defended themselves for all the king's services, and paid gold for ten hides, but to the work of huscarls one mark of silver, excepting those customs which were for one night's entertainment. There were in it two mint-masters. There are now only 82 houses; and 100 have been totally demolished since Hugh was sheriff." The walks that circumscribe near two-thirds of the town, are very pleasant, and the country about it level and fruitful, abounding with arable and sheep pasture, 6 or 700,000 being computed to feed within six miles round this town; and the corn brought to market equally abundant, particularly barley; the beer of which has ever been esteemed excellent, and sent to various parts of the world. The poor and impotent are here so well regulated and relieved, that sir J. Child, in his treatise on Trade, recommends this example as worthy to be followed by other places. As we pass through the eastern street which leads to Blandford and London, a very handsome gaol, newly finished upon the Howard plan, presents itself. This road, which was formerly bad and dangerous, by reason of its flat situation over a moor, subject to floods in time of heavy rains, and through a ford on the river Frome, was, by the spirited intervention of Mrs. Lora Pitt, made perfectly safe and agreeable; she, by an act of parliament in 1746, causing a bridge to be erected, and a causeway over the moor of Fordington, (a large manor of the dukes of Cornwall,) which she maintained for three years at her own expence.

The seats in this neighbourhood are numerous, and some of them highly worth the notice of a traveller, particularly Milton Abbey, the seat of lord Milton, whose improvements are said to have greatly heightened the natural beauties of its situation; but we were not so fortunate as to visit them, which I much lament, as not only its present appearance and condition, but its venerable antiquity, rank it amongst the first places in this kingdom. It was first founded and endowed for black monks, Benedictines, by King Athelstan, by way of atonement for having deprived his brother Edwin of his life and crown. For having a jealous eye upon this his half brother, lawful son and successor to King Edward the Elder, his suspicion, by the instigation of his followers, increased so much, that forgetting all justice and humanity, he caused the prince, accompanied with his little page, to be launched in a small boat, without tackle or furniture, into the sea, that the destructive waves might wash away his own guilt. In this helpless situation, Edwin, being distracted with grief, plunged headlong to meet his cruel fate. This fact was soon after sincerely repented of by the king, who, in order to offer some recompence for his guilt, and appease his innocent ghost, built this monastery of Milton, or Middleton, and so endowed it that it flourished in great wealth and abundance. He gave to it the manor of Osmington in the island of Purbeck, at the south-east part of this county; which afterwards became the chief seat of the Warhams, descended from the same stock as William Warham, archbishop of Canterbury in Henry VIIIth's time. Catstoke near Chalmington was also given by Gervais de Newbury to this abbey; as was Frome Bellot, which William Bellot received of his master King William I. from whose posterity it came to the family of the Everards in Edward I.'s time, and sir Edmund Everard dying without issue in time of Edward III. gave it to this abbey. This property afterwards was in the possession of John Gould. In 1340 this noble abbey was so consumed by fire that neither church nor bells escaped; yet it soon rose up again more fair than before, and so continued till the time of the dissolution, when Henry VIII. gave it to sir John Tregonwell for his mansion; from whom it came by marriage to the Luttrells of Dunster-castle; and thence by sale to the Damers.

As we pass on, several gentlemen's seats agreeably catch our attention; Stinsford, now inhabited by Mr. O'Brien, but which lately belonged, if not still, to the earl of Ilchester, and came to the Strangeways at least two centuries ago by the coheirs of Stafford. About a mile farther on the same side, we have a pleasing view of Kingston, a large mansion surrounded with fine lawns and numerous plantations lately added by its present owner Mr. William Pitt descended from a younger branch of lord Rivers's* family. This estate came by an heiress from the ancient family of the Greys, (supposed to be a branch of the noble house of that name,) who acquired it in the time of Henry Vth. by marriage with the heiress of Sir Thomas Marward, whose ancestors had long owned it. The country from hence is mostly open and of a flinty stratum, appropriated to the growth of corn and feeding of sheep.

Next we pass through Piddletont†, near which the earl of Orford has a seat, just visible from the hill beyond the village; whence also you may catch a view of Dewlish-house, the seat of Mr. D. R. Mitchell. Milborn St. Andrew, the next village we pass, had the honour of giving birth to the famous John Morton, who being bred amongst the monks of Cearne abbey, near Frompton, was first made bishop of Ely, and afterwards archbishop of Canterbury, A. D. 1486. By his means principally, England owes her happiness of uniting the houses of York and Lancaster. A little beyond we pass on our right the noble place and park-ornaments with a fine obelisk, the ancient seat, and still the residence of Mr. E. Morton Pleydell, descended from the same family as the archbishop.

Passing through the village of Whitchurch we come to a long range of bleak hills and downs, which bring us suddenly upon the pleasant town of Blandford, situate on the river Stour, over which we cross a handsome bridge of six arches: from whence we have a delightful view of Brianston, the elegant mansion of Mr. Portman, &c. A beautiful sweep or crescent of various foliage, called the cliff, hanging over the river, leads the eye gradually to the house, newly erected, which is a superb pile of Portland stone, suitable to the fortune of its owner, well known to eclipse most commoners or noblemen in England. This was anciently, in the time of Edward I. the seat of William de Echingham, in right of his wife Vura, daughter and heir of Rad. de Stopham, from whom it descended to Sir Allan de Blockshall, who held it in grand fergeanty under this odd tenure, "that he should find a man to go before the king's army forty days bareheaded and barefooted, in his shirt and linen drawers, holding in one hand a bow without a string, and in the other an arrow without feathers." From him it came to the Rogers's, men of ancient descent and great respect; in which family it continued till Sir William Portman purchased it, who left it to his adopted heir Henry Portman, in which family, as we before described, it now splendidly continues‡.

Blandford is a borough town, which gives name to one of the five divisions of this county, and being burnt down in 1731, rose like another phoenix from its ashes, with the handsome plumage it now wears. The Marlborough family have their second title of marquis from this pleasant town.

The next morning, instead of continuing the great road to Salisbury, we deviated south-east to Winburn, for the purpose of visiting the Isle of Wight, Southampton,

* Lord Camelford and Lord Chatham are a still younger branch of the same family.

† This was formerly a small market town, which the Montacutes, earls of Salisbury, gave to the priory of Christ-church, in Hampshire.

‡ However with one or two more adoptions. I think the present owner is by the male line, a Berkeley.

and Portsmouth. The former part of the way is open, and arable land; the next, extensive sheep downs. On Badbury down, about two miles from Winburn, we saw on our left a mounted hill, now crowned with firs, which is remarkable for a treble rampart; where tradition says once stood a castle, the seat of the West-Saxon kings; which Camden observes was in his time so utterly decayed, that he saw not the least sign of it; probably therefore this was a summer station of the Roman legion, who are said to have had their winter station at Winborn; which is further confirmed from coins, urns, and a Roman sword dug up there, besides the traces of a foss-way leading from hence to Old Salisbury. We now arrived at this ancient town, (called by Antoninus in his Itinerary, Vindogladia, signifying its situation between two rivers,) which the Britons called Glediau, or swords. The present name is also taken from rivers, compounded of Win, or Vin, part of the old name, and Burn, the Saxon word for water or river. Minster was added to it from its monastery and church so called, built in 712 by Cuth-Burga, sister to Ina, king of the West-Saxons; which decaying, there arose in its place a new church with a fair vault under the choir, and a very high spire besides the steeple; which spire, its most beautiful ornament, was suddenly blown down in 1600, during morning service; the stones battered down all the lead, and broke much of the timber roof of the church, yet without any injury to the people. This ruin was again repaired with the church revenues, and the liberal assistance of Sir John Hanham, whose descendant, Sir William Hanham, baronet, still resides here. After the destruction of this monastery, prebendaries were introduced, and Reginald Pole made dean of it, who afterwards became cardinal and archbishop of Canterbury; adding, as Camden observes, the "reputation of piety, wisdom, and eloquence, to the quality of his race," for he was of the royal blood, by being son to Margaret Pole, countess of Salisbury, and daughter to George, duke of Clarence, brother to King Edward IV. The choir with four singing men, six boys, and an organ, are the only cathedral remains now in use. Those who are fond of ruminating upon the relics of the dead, may here find several monuments of consequence; particularly that of King Ethelred, one of the best of princes, who, being slain in a battle against the Danes at Wittingham, in the cause of religion and his country, obtained the surname of Martyr. Near this is the monument of Gertrude Blunt, daughter to William lord Mountjoy, the great marchioness of Exeter, and another of Edward Courtenay, the last earl of Devonshire of that family, from a branch of which is descended the present viscount Courtenay, of Powderham-castle, near Exeter. On the other side of the choir, lies John de Beaufort, duke of Somerset, with his wife, Margaret*, daughter and heir of Sir John Beauchamp of Bletso, whose daughter Margaret, countess of Richmond, and mother to King Henry VII. at this place built a free-school; the endowment of which has since been augmented by a great benefactress, Queen Elizabeth.

From hence we proceeded to Christ-church, with an additional horse (after the manner of a tandem,) whose new alacrity gave a finer animation and zest to the spirits than if we always indulged in the rapidity of post-horses. From a gradual decrease of hills the two or three last stages, we now came into a perfect flat; and from a stratum of flint and hard roads, to an indifferent soil, and deep sands. The fields around are principally arable; and I observed several crops of buck-wheat, to be plowed in as manure; a mode of cultivation highly recommended in such a country. Turnips are produced here in great abundance.

* Whose picture we saw at Enmore-castle, in Somersetshire.

We now take leave of this county, and enter that of the rich and delightful Hampshire; and passing through this short uninteresting part, cross the famous river Stour again at Ivy-bridge, where, having left his favourite county which he nearly bisects, from his source of six small fountains at Stourton in Wilts, (once the honour and seat of the barons of that name,* bearing for their arms these six fountains) he hasteth towards Christ-church, to pay that tribute, which he hath taken from other lesser rivers, to the great king of waters, the sea. Variety of fish are taken here in great plenty; and we had small turbot for dinner very cheap. This old town is neat and pleasant, now called Christ-church from its church so dedicated, but formerly Twinhamburn, from its situation between two rivers, which bears the same etymology as Winburn. In the time of the Saxons it was fortified with a castle, and adorned with an ancient church of prebendaries; which was in the reign of William Rufus restored by Ralph Flambard, bishop of Durham, who had been dean of that church; and richly endowed by Richard de Rivers, earl of Devon, to whom King Henry I. gave this place in fee; and so continued in great repute till its fatal fall amidst the general wreck of monasteries. We visited these venerable walls; on the outside a lofty, stupendous pile, that bespoke a former magnificence within; as we entered, the devastations of time, and the iron hand of Cromwell were too evident. The roof is in a deplorable state; owing, as it is believed, to the falling in of a beautiful tower or spire which once adorned the external part. The choir is small but very handsome, particularly its altar-piece of stone, richly carved; the genealogy of our Saviour traced down from Jesse; at his head David; at his feet Solomon; the Virgin and child, with three wise men paying their offerings; the Shepherd with sheep, to whom the angels brought glad tidings; also the star that appeared above, where the young child was born. Here too more minutely we trace the plunderer's works; only niches now remain, where once were large images of silver, &c. To the left of this their sacrilegious hands are still more visible, on that beautiful cenotaph built for the countess of Salisbury, who was most cruelly beheaded, at the age of 70 in the tower, being attainted for treason 31 Henry VIII. on the supposition that the insurrection about that time in Yorkshire, was through the instigation of the cardinal Pole, her son, and consequently this occasion was taken to cut her off; in whom determined the line of Plantagenet. The various arms and other devices, the order of the garter, &c. are terribly defaced, which when complete must have been beautiful; as the whole of this pure Gothic miniature now appears by far the best I ever saw, and universally admired.

The following copy of an original letter, in the library of the late Mr. Brander, of this place, which was sent to Oliver Cromwell by his men, will further elucidate what I have described; it says, "we have been into the chapel and found the countess of Salisbury's tomb, built of Caen stone from Normandy, which we have defaced; also some gold and silver cups, which will be useful and ornamental for your table." We ascended to the top of the tower and enjoyed a most delightful view of the surrounding sea, the Isle of Wight, and the Needles, which are immense rocks of chalk, hurled at some distance into the water.

Mr. Gilpin speaking of his dislike to white objects, says, "that nature never colours in this offensive way; and that the chalky cliff is the only permanent object of this kind, which she allows to be hers; and this seems rather a force upon her from the boisterous action of a furious element. But even here it is her constant endeavour to correct this

* Now the seat of Mr. Hoare, and a place much admired.

offensive tint. She hangs her cliffs with samphire and other marine plants; or she stains them with various hues, so as to remove, in part at least, the disgusting glare. The western end of the Isle of Wight, called the Needle-cliffs, is a remarkable instance of this. These rocks are a substance nearly resembling chalk; but nature has so reduced their unpleasant lustre, by a variety of chastising tints, that in most lights they have even a beautiful effect."

From hence we pursued our course to Lymington; the country is mostly flat and unpleasant; and nothing remarkable occurs except a modern large mansion, called High-cliff, built by the present lord Bute. The medley of architecture is too profuse to be really handsome, yet at this distance it has a pleasing effect. The front to the sea is esteemed more beautiful, and the inside, though not often displayed, is very elegant, and ornamented with a singular fine collection of sea views, &c.

Lymington is a small maritime town, situate on the river, opposite the island, and is principally indebted to its populous condition from becoming a bathing and watering place. The rides and objects worthy notice are sufficiently variegated and alluring; but we had not an opportunity of indulging in these pleasures; eager now to cross to the Isle of Wight. About a mile from this place, nearer the water, Mr. Gilpin enjoys his elegant retirement of Vicar's-hill.

The weather was this morning particularly tempestuous, though without the least appearance of rain; we waited with anxious expectation till noon, for the arrival of the packet from Yarmouth, but in vain; no small boat could be procured as a safe and agreeable substitute, so we changed our plan, and continued by land to Southampton. We soon came upon that ground which under the oppression and tyranny of William the Conqueror, had suffered the most cruel devastations, for he destroyed all the towns, villages, and churches; and turning out the poor inhabitants, made a forest for wild beasts of 30 miles in circuit, called in that age the Ytene, now the New Forest; this he did either to make a more easy access for his Normans in case of any insurrections after his conquest, or to indulge himself in hunting, or to raise money by unjust means. For he, more merciful to beasts than mankind, laid the most severe penalties on those who should trespass on his game. But the divine vengeance seemed strongly to mark his impious projects; for Richard his second son, was killed by a pestilential blast in this forest; William Rufus, his third son, was casually shot with an arrow by Walter Tyrrel; and his grandson Henry, by Robert, his eldest son, was, like Absalom, caught by the hair in the boughs, and left hanging till he perished. On the north side of this forest, near Malwood castle, still grows the oak on which Tyrrel's arrow glanced when he shot William Rufus, which was ordered by Charles II. to be inclosed with pails. The story of its putting forth buds on Christmas-day, which wither again before night, may appear idle and superstitious to those who have not ocular demonstration; the latter part, indeed, I will not vouch for, but the former is unquestionably true, and I have seen as extraordinary an effect upon the Glastonbury thorn; the oak I have not seen, but I am contented with the evidence of a friend, whose veracity is in my mind equal to self sight. This gentleman was, a few years since called upon to determine a wager, that a leaf should be produced on Christmas-day, the size of a filbert; which he then gathered to the satisfactory determination of the bet. The Forest is divided into nine walks, each of which has a keeper; and has two rangers or bow-bearers, and a lord warden; which office, according to Leland, belonged by inheritance to the earls of Arundel; but is at present enjoyed by the duke of Gloucester.

We passed through Lyndhurst, a small town of one principal street, with a variety of summer residencies around it. The duke of Gloucester has a pleasant seat here; and a

little beyond the village on the left, we observed the seat and pleasure grounds of the late sir Philip Jennings, bart.* and now inhabited by his widow. We proceeded through most delightful avenues, formed by the umbrageous arms of noble fons of the Forest. When we came upon the open plain again, the contrast was most severely felt. That driving wind which had at Lymington prevented our passage to the Isle of Wight, now met us with all its embattled host upon these plains; and it was with the utmost difficulty we could gain ground. The volumes of dust which enveloped us on every side, almost obstructed our sight, and made us motionless. It was a consolation, however, to think we had not to contend with a more dangerous element. After these severe struggles we were surrounded with protecting inclosures, which soon led us through the extensive parish of Eling, and round the head of Southampton river. Near Eling is Poulton's, lately the favourite seat of the right hon. Hans Stanley, from whom it came to Mr. Wellbore Ellis, the present owner, who married his sister. It formerly belonged to a branch of the noble family of the Powletts, of this county. After making a considerable elbow amidst delightful scenery, rich with country mansions, &c. we arrive at this delightful town, the seat of much pleasure, opulence, and commerce. The antiquity of Southampton can be no longer questioned, from the various Roman coins, vestiges of old walls, &c. that have been dug up around it; but various are the opinions of the origin of its name. Some deriving it from the Clausentum of Antoninus, or from the ancient Trifanton; the former signifying the Port Entum, and the latter the Bay of Anton. We may therefore with greater certainty subscribe to Camden, who rests upon the unquestionable authority of Doomsday book, where the whole county is expressly called Hantscyre, or Hantonscire, from Hanton, or Hampton; a name of pure Saxon origin. Whatever was its ancient condition, situation, or bounds, we are assured that it shared in the common miseries of the nation during the Danish wars, when old Hanton fell a prey to those destructive tyrants, A. D. 980. And in the time of William the conqueror, it appears from the expression of his own book, "that the king had in that town only, 80 men or tenants in demesne." Which, about 400 years ago, when king Edward III. and Philip of Valois, contended for the kingdom of France, was burnt by the French. Out of the ashes whereof there sprang up a more conveniently situated town, "that which now remains (as Camden says) between two rivers†; famous for the number and neatness of its buildings, for the richness of inhabitants, and resort of merchants; fortified with a double ditch, strong walls, with several battlements: and for a better defence to the harbour, there is a strong castle built of square stone, upon a high-raised mount, by Richard II." This is now converted into a pleasure-house, whose windows and top command most delightful views.

Anecdotes of great men and popular stories are handed down from mind to mind, and even lisped by the mouths of babes, till a confusion of times and places destroys their characteristic marks, and leaves nothing but an obscure sense or mere sound. That famous one of Canute, King of England and Denmark, reproving a flattering courtier, who persuaded him that all nature would obey his royal will and pleasure, comes under this description, and is no doubt well known to all mankind, as the finest lesson to curb

* His paternal state was at Duddleston, in Shropshire; he took the name of Clerke and died about a year since, and his only son a few months after him, S. P. upon which the title became extinct.

† Itchin and Tees; the former, on the east side of the town, rises from two small lakes near Alresford, a market town situate in the east part of the county, and runs through Winchester; the latter rises near Basingstoke in the north borders of the county and passes by Overton, famous for trout, through Whitechurch, and catching another stream from Andover, runs through Stockbridge, Romsey, &c. and enters the noble Southampton-water at Redbridge.

tyranny and pride; from him that sitteth on a throne to him who ruleth in a cottage. But when we are told that this is the place, the beach whereon we now walk, that gave rise to the admirable lesson and oratory; its value is doubly enhanced, and we reflect upon it with the highest pleasure. "When he came (says Henry of Huntingdon) to shore, he commanded a chair to be set for him and said to the flowing tide: "Thou art under my dominion, and the ground on which I sit is mine, nor did ever any disobey my commands with impunity, therefore I command thee not to come upon my ground, nor to wet the cloaths or the feet of me thy lord and master." But the rude waves presently came up, and wet his royal feet; upon which he stepped back and said; "Let all the inhabitants of the world know, that the power of monarchs is a vain and empty thing, and that no one deserves the name of king, but he whose will, by an eternal law, the Heaven, Earth, and Sea obey." Nor would he ever after suffer the crown to be put on his head, but caused it to be placed on Christ's statue at Winchester. The strongest circumstantial evidence of this story may be gathered from the ancient coins of Canute, which were afterwards stamped with a mitre on his head, or sometimes a cap or triangular covering.

The present state of Southampton is full as flourishing as in Camden's time, though not perhaps from the same resources; its home trade and manufactures are at a low ebb; but its navigable merchandize is still very considerable with Portugal, and the Island of Jersey, Guernsey, &c. Its charming and healthful situation, goodness of buildings, &c. have of late years, made it the residence of many genteel and respectable families; and though sea-bathing and accommodations for that purpose are not in such perfection here as in many other places; yet the beauty of the surrounding country, the glorious appearance of the river washing its borders and communicating with the delightful Isle of Wight, together with numerous other objects of amusement and curiosity, make ample amends for those deficiencies, and render it a public place of the first fashion. High-street is remarkably handsome, and well paved. The gate-way leading into it, is a fine piece of architecture and in high preservation: after a display of genteel accommodations and other buildings, it winds in a pleasing curve, and terminates at the quay. Nor is it inferior to other public places, in assembly rooms, plays, and other modes of diversion. But to enter into the minutiae of them, or the surrounding places of delight, would be foreign to the purpose of a general tour. In the catalogue of religious and charitable foundations, in the five parishes, into which Southampton is at present divided, Holyrood church, as it is most attended, is worth mentioning, particularly for its monument to the memory of Miss Stanley, sister to the late Hans Stanley, of Poulton's, finished by the famous Ryfbrack, and her death thereon recorded by the poet Thomson, who also celebrates her loss most feelingly, in the Summer of his Seasons. St. Michael, All Saints, and the consolidated livings of St. Lawrence and St. John, are mostly old and inconsiderable. But St. Mary's having been destroyed by fire, is re-built modern, and is in the gift of the bishop of Winchester, and valued at 1000*l.* *per ann.* The hospital of God's house is a very ancient establishment, founded by one Roger Hampton, according to a charter in the Monasticon of Edward III. but without date. It consists at present of a warden, four old men, and old women, who are allowed two shillings a week. We will omit the rest as inconsiderable, to give some account of the objects worth notice in this vicinity.

Nectelewe, Lettele, Netley, Edwarstow, or De loco Sancti Edwardi, juxta Southampton, is pleasantly situated, in the parish of Hound, on the eastern banks of the Southampton river, about two miles below that town. According to Godwin and Leland, it was founded by Petro de Rupibus, who died 1253: but Dugdale and Tanner attribute

it to Henry III., "who," says the latter, "A. D. 1239, founded an abbey for Cistercian monks from Beaulieu, and commended it to St. Mary and St. Edward. About the time of the dissolution, here was an abbot and twelve monks; whose possessions were then valued, according to Dugdale, at 100l. 12s. 8d. but according to Speed, at 150l. 2s. 9d. The estate was granted by Henry VIII., to Sir William Paulet." About the middle of the 16th century, it was the seat of the earl of Hertford: and afterwards was fitted up and inhabited by an earl of Huntingdon, who, as tradition says, converted part of the chapel into a kitchen and other offices; still reserving the east end for sacred uses. In the year 1700 it came into the possession of sir Berkeley Lucy, who sold the materials of the chapel to one Taylor, a carpenter, of Southampton, who took off the roof, which till that time was entire. It afterwards belonged to Henry Cliff, esq. who sold it to Mr. Dummer, in whose family it remains. The view of part of the chapel, (which was built in the form of a cross) taken, in 1761, by Mr. Grose, to whom I am indebted for this account, annexed to his work, shews it was an elegant building, though now greatly defaced. There are likewise (he says) remains of the refectory and kitchen: the whole is so overgrown with ivy, and interspersed with trees, as to form a scene, inspiring the most pleasing melancholy.

Having thus given its history and condition, let me now add that inimitable description of Mr. Gray, in his letter to Mr. Nichols, (p. 380.)

Southampton, Nov. 18, 1764.

"The climate is remarkably mild, even in October and November; no snow has been seen to lie there for these thirty years past, the myrtles grow in the ground against the houses, and Guernsey lilies bloom in every window: the town clean and well built, surrounded by its old stone walls, with their towers and gate-ways, stands at the point of a peninsula, and opens full south to an arm of the sea, which, having formed two beautiful bays on each hand of it, stretches away in direct view, till it joins the British channel; it is skirted on either side with gently rising grounds, clothed with thick wood, and directly cross its mouth rise the high lands of the Isle of Wight, at distance, but distinctly seen. In the bosom of the woods (concealed from prophane eyes) lie hid the ruins of Nettley Abbey; there may be richer and greater houses of religion, but the abbot is content with his situation. See there, at the top of that hanging meadow, under the shadow of those old trees, that bend into an half circle about it, he is walking slowly (good man) and bidding his beads for the souls of his benefactors, interred in that venerable pile, that lies beneath him. Beyond it (the meadow still descending) nods a thicket of oaks, that mask the building, and have excluded a view too garish and luxuriant for an holy eye; only on either hand they leave an opening for the blue glittering sea. Did you not observe how as that white sail shot by and was lost, he turned and crossed himself to drive the tempter from him, that had thrown that distinction in his way? I should tell you, the ferry man, who rowed me, a lusty young fellow, told me that he would not for all the world pass a night at the abbey (there were such things seen in it) though there was a power of money hid there."

What befel the two unfortunate contractors of the name of Taylor, in plundering this abbey of its materials, those who are fond of dreams, apparitions, and second sights, will find an extraordinary account of, in Browne Willis's *Mitred Abbies*.*

As modern objects of sight, Bellevue and Bevis Mount, situate close adjacent on the road to Winchester, merit the first attention; the former was built by Mr. Nathaniel St. André, now the property of Mr. Chambers, a minor, and inhabited by Admiral King.

* P. 205 and 6, vol. ii. &c.

The latter was the seat and favourite residence, during the latter part of his life, of the late general sir John Mordaunt, K. B. so beloved for his vivacity and hospitality. I think I have heard, it had been before the habitation, in his old age, of his uncle, the famous general, Charles, earl of Peterborough*, the friend of Pope and Swift, with whose character and whose letters, in the well-known correspondence of those great geniuses, we are so delighted. Upon the death of sir John, it came to his cousin, the present earl of Peterborough, who sold it to Mr. Sotheby. On the right of Itchin is South Stoneham, the seat of Mr. Hans Sloane, who is next in succession after the present possessor, to the estates of Mr. Hans Stanley, of Poultons. About two miles further is North Stoneham, the seat of Mr. Fleming, member for Southampton, whose family have possessed it many years. Near this place is a very curious manufactory of blocks for pulleys, used in ships, &c. These, which before were only made by hand, are here entirely formed by machinery, in a manner no where else known or practised.

Thus far having noticed the chief beauties round Southampton, let us now proceed to scenes still more beautiful, if possible, and as nothing is lovely, nothing engaging, in the absence of nature's painting orb, we had no cause to complain on that account. The morning was all glorious, and the steady gale auspicious, when we took early passage in one of those excellent vehicles, called the mail packet, to the Isle of Wight. Those who are fond of water excursions, cannot fail to be greatly pleased with this, where the river and the land continually conspire to delight us with a diversity of prospects. As we sailed along, the water was, in some places, almost covered with wild fowl, in others strewed with the busy groups of fishing boats. About eight miles down we were pleased with the view of Cadlands, the elegant seat of Mr. Drummond, charmingly peeping from amidst the graceful foliage of the New-forest.

A little lower, on the opposite shore, on our left, stands Hook, the large but singularly built house of governor Hornsby; after having been twice burnt, it was finished about three years since, according to the same plan as the Governor's at Madras. The noble yacht belonging to this gentleman we also saw, which is esteemed the finest on the seas; but he had the misfortune to have all its men pressed in the last war. Below this to the right, on a narrow neck of land, which stretches out considerably into the river, stands a pretty strong fort, called Calshot Castle; this was built by Henry VIII. to secure the entrance of the river. Great additions have been since made, and a garrison is constantly kept, under the command of a governor, who has in it some excellent apartments, and from the privileges in the New-forest, enjoys a very liberal income. Adjacent to this the honourable Temple Luttrell has erected a lofty tower, which is called his folly; but notwithstanding its fantastical shape, I am told the inside is admirable, and the outside is surrounded with Turkish tents very curious, into which you enter by subterraneous passages; the expence of this singular place was very great. We now rushed forward into that pleasant circular ocean which surrounds the island. The gale was brisk, and the waves, to the ideas of landmen, appeared rolling high; but divested of fear no motion is more delightful. After an agreeable sail of about 16 miles, in about two hours, and at the small expence of sixpence, we arrived at West Cowes, a considerable harbour and a place of trade; situate at the mouth of Newport river, to guard which is another castle and garrison, built by Henry VIII. and opposite to this was another at East Cowes, but now demolished. A translation from Leland, speaks of them thus:

"The two huge Cowes that bellow on the shore,
Shake east and west, with their tremendous roar,

* He died at Lisbon October 25, 1735, aged 77, and was great-grandfather of the present Earl.

They guard fair Newport, and the lofty isle,
From fierce invaders, and their cruel spoil."

After breakfast we proceeded to Newport, which stands almost in the centre of the island: the road is a gradual ascent; the river winding near it to the left, affords a pleasing view, and the country, mostly arable, looks fertile. About a mile from Newport we pass a large house of industry, erected for the maintenance and employment of the poor in general, which is capable of containing 700 persons. The garden that surrounds it, is divided into numerous little allotments, which bespeak comfort to those industrious owners, who by their little manufactures there established, ease the community of a considerable burden.

Before we proceed, let us add some general remarks of this island, and a short sketch of its history. By the Romans it was called Vecta, by the Britons Guith, and the Saxons Wite, from whence we derive its present name. Vespasian subjected this isle to the Roman empire in the reign of Claudius. Cerdicus, the founder of the West Saxons, was also the first that brought it under subjection to that nation. With them it continued till about 650, when it underwent several other changes. About the year 1070, William Fitz-Osborne, then marshal of England and earl of Hereford, conquered this island, and became first lord of it. It was soon after his death seized into the king's hands, but it continued not long in the crown, for King Henry I. gave it to Richard de Rivers, Earl of Devon, who was succeeded by his son Baldwin, and here it continued through several generations, till Baldwin 5th, dying without issue, his sister Isabel became his heir, who being married to William de Fortibus, earl of Albemarle, was lady of this island. Her three sons dying in her life-time, she was prevailed upon (or as Mr. Camden says, constrained by much difficulty) to sell this manor and that of Christ Church, to King Edward I. for 6000 marks, paid by the king's receivers, 1261; after this island had been in the family of Rivers 170 years. This island has several times suffered by the invasions of the French, particularly in the 1st of Richard II. when they landed August 21, burnt several towns, and laid siege to Carebrook castle, but the defence of sir Hugh Tyrell, then governor, made them contented to return with a compromise from the islanders of 1000 marks. Again, in the years 1403, 1545, &c. they made other bold attempts to conquer this island, but without success. Thus having continued near 200 years in the crown, it was at length advanced to the title of a kingdom, about 1445, by Henry VI. who having created Henry Beauchamp, first premier earl of England, then duke of Warwick, lastly crowned him King of this island with his own hands. But this did not long continue, for he dying without male issue, it again returned to the crown, in which it rested 44 years, till Edward IV. who succeeded Henry, made his father-in-law, Richard Woodville, lord of Wight. After this, history is almost silent till king Charles I. informed of the cruel designs of the parliament army, made his escape from Hampton-court, and retired to the Isle of Wight under the care of Colonel Hammond, then governor of Carebrook Castle, who conducted his majesty to that place, November 14, 1647, to remain there till further orders. The sequel of his unhappy fate is too black and too well known to need any further description.

Having thus far given its history, let us now speak more minutely of its nature. Its form is almost oval; measuring from east to west 23 miles, and from north to south 13; it contains about 100,000 acres of very fertile arable land, and much pasture for sheep; and its inhabitants are computed to be about 20,000. The air is esteemed very salubrious, and on the south side particularly soft and agreeable. The river Mede, running from north to south, divides it into two hundreds, called East and West-

Medine, which contains 30 parishes or upwards. The principal of these is Newport, which we now visited; its streets are square, neatly paved, and houses well built; it is governed by a mayor, aldermen, &c. and sends members to parliament. From hence we walked to inspect the noble ruins of Carebrook castle; the sun shone delightfully, and the climate was sensibly different from that we had felt in the morning; the scenery around was very agreeable; but in this part there is a want of wood; the soil abounds with chalk. We inspected the castle, and were much gratified. This * castle is situated on an eminence about a mile south of the town of Newport, and overlooks the village of Carebrook. Here was, it is said, a castle or fort, built by the Britons, and repaired by the Romans, when this island was subdued by Vespasian, A. D. 45, in the reign of the emperor Claudius. This was afterwards rebuilt by Wightgar, the Saxon, who, according to Stowe, was king of the island about 519: he called it Wight Garisbourg; of which Carebrook is supposed to be a corrupted contraction. This building again falling to decay, either through length of time, or some other means, was a second time re-edified in the reign of Henry I. by Richard de Rivers, earl of Devon; and Camden says it was once more magnificently re-built by the Governor of the island. Some great repairs were done here by Queen Elizabeth. In a shield over the outer gate, there is the date 159-, (the remaining figure is so overgrown with ivy, as to be rendered illegible) beneath this are the initials E. R. and under them the figures 40. Perhaps she built this gate, as the outer-works have a more modern appearance than the other parts of this edifice. The walls of the ancient part of the castle enclose a space whose area is about an acre and half; its shape that of a right-angled parallelogram, with the angles rounded off; the greatest length is from east to west. The entrance is on the west side over a bridge, on a curtain, between two bastions; then through a small gate, over which is the inscription before cited; from this, by a passage, having on each side an embattled wall, and under a very handsome machicolated gate flanked with two round towers. The old door is still remaining; it is formed of strong latticework, having at each crossing, a piece of iron kept down by a large nail. On the right is a small chapel with a burial ground, walled in; over the door is carved G. II. 1738; and on the east end is a stone tablet, shewing that it was repaired during the government of lord Lymington: at present there is no service in it. It is said that there is a farm in the island, the tythes of which, amounting to 12l. *per annum*, belong to this chapel; the castle itself constituting the parish of St. Nicholas. Further on, on the north side, are several ruins of low buildings, said to be those where Charles I. was confined; and in one of them is shewn the window through which he attempted his escape. Beyond these are the barracks and governor's house, called the Keep-house; in which are many handsome rooms. On the north-east angle, on a mount raised considerably above the other buildings, stands the Keep: it is an irregular polygon; the way to it is by an ascent of 72 steps, and in it are three more. From this place there is a most extensive prospect; the sea being visible to the north, east, and south, but hid on the west by a hill. Here was formerly a well, said to be 300 feet deep; but it is now filled up with rubbish. In the south-east angle stand the remains of another tower, called Mountjoy's tower; its walls are, in some places, 18 feet thick. These towers have the appearance of much greater antiquity, than the other buildings of the castle. The old castle is included within a more modern fortification; probably built by Queen Elizabeth; it is an irregular pentagon, faced with stone, and defended by five bastions, on the outside of which runs a deep ditch: the north curtain, perhaps on account of its

† This account is from Grose.

length, has a break in the middle, to make a flank. Several guns are mounted on this work, near a mile and half in circumference.

We now returned to Newport, and from thence proceeded towards the eastern side of the island. The roads, considering there are no turnpikes, are mostly good, being formed at the expense of every householder paying two shillings annually, or finding two days labour; and all people of property in proportion. Ascending gradually about two miles from Newport, we had a charming view down the meandering river; the face of the country began to wear a more rich aspect, as we were surrounded with fine woods. On our right we leave Ash Down, on the highest part of which is a pyramid of stone, twenty feet high, erected by the crown, as a mark for ships coming into St. Helen's or Spithead. We now passed through a beautiful bower of oaks and trees of various sorts, called Firestone coppice, which abound with all kinds of game, besides being of high ornament to this situation. After this we arrived at Ride Quay, without much further observation, having only in this excursion taken a transient glance, rather than a survey of this sweet island: but sufficient however to convince us both of its natural and improved excellence. The wind was rather too opposite to permit our passage directly to Portsmouth, which was the next object of our pursuit, so we landed, after a rough sail, at Stoke Bay, walking from thence to Gosport, much amused with the vast buildings on our right, for the charitable support and accommodation of sick or wounded seamen and marines belonging to the royal navy. This noble royal hospital is situated at the west entrance into the harbour, on a dry gravelly soil, within 400 yards of the water, and surrounded with an airing ground near a mile in circumference, inclosed with a wall 12 feet high. On a pediment in the front are various ornament sculptured in Portland stone; the most applicable and worth mentioning, is Navigation leading one hand on a ship's rudder, and pouring balm with the other, from a viol, on a wounded sailor. Over the centre is a large hall, 100 feet long, and 50 broad, where the recovering patients dine. The wards are all uniform, 60 feet long, and 20 broad, and each have apartments adjoining for nurses, with every convenience of water, &c. that conduces to cleanliness and health. This elegant building was begun in 1746, at the earnest recommendation of Lord Sandwich, and finished in 1762. As we enter Gosports which is a busy and considerable place, the fortifications and king's brewery are objects most striking. At the end of these streets, we cross the passage in a wherry, to another handsome street called the Point, which leads to a draw-bridge and gate into Portsmouth town; where we now retired to an excellent inn, the George, and remained there during these inquiries.

Portsmouth is situated in the Island of Portsea, east of that noble harbour, which at high water spreads the redundancy of the sea several miles to Porchester, formerly Port Peris, where tradition says, Vespasian, first arrived: here forming several little isles, Pewit, Horsey, &c. it encompasseth about 24 miles of this flat country, named the Island of Portsea, by a narrow creek at the northern extremity uniting with a large expanse, again called Langston haven. The ancient castle of Portchester is still remaining at the head of the harbour; from whence, as the sea retiring from this shore, made it less commodious, our ancestors removed to the entrance or mouth of the harbour; from whence called Portsmouth. Though Camden speaks in the highest terms of this place, (particularly of the walls, forts, &c. made by King Edward IV. and Henry VII.) which (he says) "within our memory, Queen Elizabeth, at a great expence has so secured by new works, that nothing seems now wanting to make it a most complete fortification." Yet what a wonderful change is here wrought since his time, both as to the extent, strength, and magnificence of the land fortifications, as well

well as those nobler bulwarks, the royal navy, and other requisites, and ornaments belonging to marine affairs. The genius of England was too unbounded ever to rest below the highest attainment of human perfection; ever soaring above the rest of the world in the business of commerce, or the arts of war: and through the vast growth of naval action, this is become the principal chamber for these royal stores in this our superior kingdom. And though every port has had its proportionable encrease, yet what a disparity may we observe in comparing the different states of the royal navy, in Camden's time; that of his learned editor; and at this day. Nor is the disparity of these circumstances more striking, than in the appearance of the town itself, which, from the simple account of our fine old author, who says, "It has a church of good ancient work, and an hospital (which they call God's house) founded by Peter de Rupibus, bishop of Winchester," is now, from the great increase of business and confluence of people, swelled into the size and magnificence of a modern city; so that the walls, not able to contain a further enlargement, have discharged the great surplus into two noble suburbs to the west and north, named the Point, and the Common, so called from its healthy situation; both of which are large, populous, and handsome; but the latter, from its immoderate increase, soon promises to out-do both in size and beauty the great town itself; this too on reasonable grounds, being free from the laws of garrison, town and corporation duties, &c. So that the idea of Camden is now totally subverted, or eclipsed, where he says, "Portsmouth is populous in time of war, but not so in time of peace; and seems more inclined to the arts of Mars and Neptune, than of Mercury." Surely it may now be said, that the common business of this place creates more life and action, under the soft olive branch of peace, than was then seen beneath the boistrous banner, and the rousing clarion of war.

Having thus far premised in a general account, we will now proceed to describe particulars, in the order which we saw them. October 11, fair and pleasant, we walked to the Common, where we first inspected the gun-yard, a place of great curiosity and entertainment. The different sized guns, shot, and other implements of war, are here piled up in the most neat and exact order imaginable. We saw likewise nine of the guns that were recovered from the Royal George. From hence we continued along this new part of the town, which soon led us to the Dock-yard, where, by sending a proper request to the Commissioners, and inserting our names and places of abode, &c. in a book, according to the usual and necessary form, we were civilly attended round this immense and important place, which is like another town within its walls, consisting of innumerable store-houses; large rows of handsome dwellings for the principal officers; particularly a spacious and elegant one for the Commissioner; a noble academy for the instruction of youth, intended for the navy, and a neat modern chapel, in which is hung the bell that belonged to the Royal George. But the principal objects worth the notice of a traveller are the rope-house and the anchor-forge. The former consists of three rooms, one over the other, 870 feet long. In the upper ones they were with great quickness and ingenuity spinning the hemp and preparing the threads; while below they were uniting the different parts into one immense whole, called a cable, which process is so very difficult and laborious as to require the efforts of near 100 men to complete it. The perspective seen from one end of this room, while they are working at the other, is very striking and curious. While we were thus filled with admiration and astonishment at this immense pile and its operations, we were equally surprised to reflect on the villainy of Jack the Painter, who now hangs in chains on the Gosport side of the harbour, for having in 1777, most daringly set fire to it; but providentially his deep laid scheme was in a great measure frustrated, by its breaking out prematurely in the day instead of the

the night, and the wind driving towards the water, which prevented a similar havock to what this yard suffered, July 3, 1760; when, as it was believed by lightening, which was that day terrible, many warehouses were consumed, with the loss of 1050 tons of hemp, 500 of cordage, and 700 sails, besides many hundred barrels of tar, oil, &c. We next observed the several large ships under repair in the docks, and the numbers that now lay in the harbour, which from hence was a glorious sight. Our guide particularly pointed out to us the Royal William, as being the oldest now in the navy, and of most excellent construction, strong enough at present for any common service; which validity must be owing to the method then in use of seasoning their planks by fire, a practice in these days esteemed too wasteful for the scarcity of timber, and instead of which the art of boiling, not half so durable, is substituted.

Having so far satisfied our curiosity, and seen the superior excellence of this place over Plymouth, except in wet and dry docks, which, the different nature of the stratum in which they are formed, will not allow; we now proceeded to walk round the fortifications, garrisons, &c. that so wonderfully adorn and strengthen this town. The vast additions within these few years under the direction of the duke of Richmond, are very strong and beautiful; but whether or not they are likely to answer the enormous expence of Government, is not our business to determine; nor do I wish ever to see them greatly put to the trial. Various are the opinions and conjectures on this subject; but the strongest objection seems to be that, of having placed those on the north side too near the town, so that the enemy, if landed, might approach near enough to throw their destructive shells, &c. over, on the town and docks.

After dinner we went aboard the *Barfleur* lying in the harbour, which afforded us much amusement and instruction, besides the pleasure of calling to mind that glorious action on the 12th of April, when amongst the rest of our captures from the French, she received the vanquished colours of the *Ville-de-Paris*, under the command of lord Rodney, and her immediate excellent admiral sir Samuel Hood. She is an excellent ship of 90 guns, and three decks, the handsomest and most complete man of war here in commission. The fight was truly novel and pleasing, particularly in the lower deck, amidst a crowd of 3 or 400 men, women, and children enlivening the scene with their various culinary, and other occupations, and amusements. The cleaning out the large soup coppers was very entertaining; for this purpose two men were naked in the inside, scrubbing away with great labor, in a situation necessarily very hot from the close adjacent fire. The cock-pit underneath this belongs to the midshipmen, and a most terrible birth it is, entirely below the surface of the water, and secluded from every ray of light, or breath of air, save what the faint candles and small orifice of a low door will admit. This surely in hot climates must be intolerable, and one would wonder how even second nature can reconcile it. Well may these inferior officers be fighting and hoping for an active war, that may either provide them with a glorious death, or reward their courage and endeavours with a superior station. The admiral's cabin is in the middle deck, made in every respect handsome and agreeable; besides the comfort of being less liable to noise and motion than above or below. In the upper deck are the mess-room and births for the lieutenants, &c. and a shew-room, in which is displayed a neat armory, in miniature; this is under the care and management of the first lieutenant, who has his birth here. The guns which stand in the port holes of each deck have been lately improved with sir Charles Douglas's invention of a lock to fire them with, instead of the old method of a match: by which means the man who performs this part in an action is less liable to the danger of the gun's recoiling, or the ball of an enemy
through

through the port-hole; as the swivel used to the trigger admits his standing on one side to draw it. The view from the quarter deck was enchanting; surrounded with innumerable objects of a similar kind; 50 sail of the line from 74 guns to 100, besides every possible variety of inferior sizes; such a collection as no one part of the whole world can shew besides. While to the south, half way across to the Isle of Wight, Spithead displayed other vast ships nobly to our delighted eye, near which we could plainly distinguish the three masts of the unfortunate Royal George rising several feet above the water, the body being buried below.

In our return to shore we rowed down the harbour to inspect a new vessel, called the Owres Light-house, just arrived from London. This is upon a new construction, a floating light; a sloop to carry 20 men; from the centre rises a strong mast with an immense globular frame of glass on the top, which contains many lamps similar to the light-house on Eddystone rock, and those on the west end of Portland Island. This curious vehicle is going immediately to be stationed at the Owres, a dangerous heap of rocks a few leagues north east of Portsmouth, the terror of mariners, and which our boatman complained "had made his heart ach many a time."

The evening was calm and clear, and Cynthia's silver lamp hung splendid in the sky. We strolled upon the beach, and while the thousand pennants hung glimmering in the air, the martial music from the ships swelled on our enraptured ear, till the hour of eight was signalized by the great gun of Edgar, then in command; which was echoed by lesser firings far and near. The effect was to us quite new and delightful, and is regularly practised six months in the year precisely at this hour, and the other six at nine o'clock; also at sun-rise each morning.

We left Portsmouth early the next morning, and found great comforts in a post chaise, it being intensely cold. We proceeded at the rate of eight or nine miles an hour, and passed by the barracks, and over Port bridge, having Portchester castle on our left. Here we quitted this tide-girt island, and ascending Portsdown hill, had a glorious retrospect of Portsmouth, the well-stored harbour, Gosport, and the Isle of Wight, rising very distinctly across the sea. As we descended from this summit, the change of country was very striking; from open hills of chalk, to thick inclosures of woods and pastures. Leave on our left Southwick, famous for the marriage of King Henry VI., with Margaret of Anjou. It was from the reign of Elizabeth the seat of the Norton's, the last of whom dying in 1732, left by an extraordinary will, his real estate of 6000*l.* a year, and a personal one computed at 60,000*l.* to the poor, hungry, thirsty, naked, and strangers, sick and wounded, and prisoners, to the end of the world, appointing parliament his executors, and in case of their refusal the bishops; leaving all his pictures and other moveables to the king. This will carried with it such evident marks of insanity, that it was soon after set aside. Upon this act it came to the Whiteheads of Norman court in this county, and from them to the Thistlethwaites, and is now possessed by a descendant, the present member for the county.

We now passed the village of Purbeck, and saw on our right Purbeck house belonging to a Mr. Taylor, a minor. From hence we approach the forest of Bear, a large tract of woodland. Pass through the village of Hamden, beyond which the country changes to extensive downs, the road winding through a deep vale, surrounded with noble hills of verdure, heaped in various forms; while the fleecy flocks, that strayed along their sides, with each a shepherd, with his crook and dog, made the scene truly Arcadian. The next summit opens a rich vale of inclosures, arable and pasture, very similar to the Chiltern country in Bucks. Descending now towards Petersfield we pass

on our left Mapledurham, an ancient house and manor, belonging to Mr. Gibbon the historian, (whose father was M. P. for Petersfield) now let for the purpose of a boarding school.

Petersfield is a borough and market town, remarkable for nothing but its genial situation, in a rich amphitheatre, surrounded by bold waving hills. Here we left the great London road, and turning to the left towards Alton, ascended an immense hill, called Stoner, clothed with much wood and full of chalk, very little inferior in length and steepness to the famous chalk hill in Bedfordshire. The summit affords a prospect of the scene below, and all the fine swells to the south and west, and an extensive view into Sussex. This part of the county is very superior to the rest, and scarcely inferior to the beauties of Devonshire and Dorsetshire. Passing from hence over a large open tract, we leave the village of Selborn on our right, where resides the Rev. Gilbert White, who has lately published a very delightful Natural History and Antiquities of that place. We now came into the Gosport road, amidst inclosures of arable and pasture, and passing by Chawton, the seat of Mr. Knight. soon arrive at Alton.

Alton is a small market town, situate on the rivulet Wey, in its course to Farnham, Guilford, and other parts of Surrey, where accumulating into a considerable river it discharges itself into the Thames at Weybridge. Here is a manufacture of corded stuffs, serge de nims, &c. and around the town are excellent hop grounds, whose crops were now just gathered in. In the evening which was charming we proceeded on the Farnham road, through the village of Bentley, amidst a profusion of cultivation inclosed with the finest quick-hedges I ever saw, some near twelve feet high and beautifully formed. On the left is Froyle place the seat of sir Thomas Miller, bart. an ancient-looking house newly repaired and the grounds much improved. On the right, amidst an abundance of foliage, called Holt Forest, is Holt Lodge, the seat of lord Stawell. The house is very moderate, and only a leasehold under the Crown.

In this county we continued some weeks, amongst friends, whose social sympathy and liberal accommodations, enlivened the scenes we visited, and otherwise forwarded our pursuits. I shall therefore proceed to describe this part of the country in the most convenient order, without regard to dates or seasons.

We first visited Ewshot, the seat of Henry Maxwell, esq. which is the manor house of a considerable hamlet, of the very large parish of Crundal. Here has been very anciently a seat, which is supposed to have been from early times the residence of the Giffords, one of whom was sheriff of this county, 11 Hen. VI. and another 20 Elizabeth. By some notices in the parish register, it appears that there was a park belonging to it in the reign of Queen Elizabeth, the boundaries of which are now to be traced, or remembered by some of the old inhabitants of the parish. Its domains, and the distant scenery surrounding it, are peculiarly adapted to the recreations of retirement. The soft gradations of variegated wood in the front view, with the Gothic arch in Dogmersfield park, "bosomed high in tufted trees," are very beautiful. The effect of autumn on this scene during a season of the loveliest sun-shine imaginable, often reminded me of the following exquisite lines by Thomson;

"Those virgin leaves, of purest vivid green,
Which charm'd ere yet they trembled on the trees,
Now cheer the sober landscape in decay:
The lime first fading; and the golden birch,
With bark of silver hue; the moss grown oak,
Tenacious of its leaves of russet brown;
Th' ensanguin'd dogwood; and a thousand tints

Which Flora, dressed in all her pride of bloom,
Could scarcely equal, decorate the groves."

Our next excursion was to Farnham, a neat market town, on the edge of Surrey; it consists of one broad street, famous once for a large corn-market, but now for the vast produce of the finest hops in England, whose quality is greatly heightened by the care and art used in drying and bagging. In this place it was, that about the year 893, King Alfred defeated the Danes; and afterwards, when King Stephen had granted leave to build castles, Henry of Blois, his brother, bishop of Winchester, erected a strong castle upon the side of the hill near the town, which Henry III. demolished; afterwards it was rebuilt by the bishop of the diocese, and is now enjoyed by the hon. Brownlow North, whose great improvements since his promotion to this see, we had now the opportunity of inspecting. The entrance is very magnificent, and the tower lofty and perfect. In the inside is a display of several excellent rooms; the hall is spacious and handsome, and surrounded with large galleries; it has been newly ornamented, and only wants now a marble floor to make it quite noble. The dining room is nothing remarkable, but the drawing room is admirable; about 48 by 30, and just finished in the most elegant style. The chapel is very neat and suitable. From the library the prospect over the town, the surrounding hop-grounds, and the two large hills called Crooksbury and Hinde-head, is very pleasing. Hinde-head is situate on the borders of Suffex, and commands a view of nine counties. We now ascended the most ancient part of this building called Jay's tower; on the top of which is a complete garden, rich in itself and in the view it commands, particularly ten acres of pleasure ground and park, in which is a most noble avenue of elms, and on the left a superb green-house, full of very rare and costly plants, all lately inclosed with forest trees, &c. As botany is the principal delight of the family, we were amused with several very curious nurseries of the choicest collection; and the neat little flower garden of Mrs. North exceeds every thing of the kind I have ever seen. Farnham being the residence of an excellent painter, Mr. Elmer, whose pencil for many years has adorned the Royal Exhibition with birds and game, we had the pleasure to inspect his rooms, which are replete, not only with capital performances of his own, but also several admirable pictures of the best masters. Without any opportunity of artfully awakening his natural genius, this painter has arrived at the summit of his line; and I think his fish are inimitable.

From hence we visited More-Park, formerly the seat of sir William Temple, and the place of entertainment to the famous Dean Swift, whence he so often dedicates his lays to Stella. It is situated in a pleasant valley, about two miles south-east of Farnham, and was esteemed once beautiful; a few years since it was refitted and adorned for the residence of the duchess of Athol, but she not admiring it long, the premises, now the property of Mr. Bacon, are suffered to fall to ruin. In the corner of the old park, under a cliff by the river side, is a curious natural grotto, called Mother Ludoe's Hole. The entrance of this cavern is spacious and lofty, and gradually decreases to a narrow passage, terminating with a source of a clear rill, which issues forth through a decayed pavement, and falls into the opposite stream. The cold collations and parties of pleasure which formerly visited this place in the summer season, are now no more, and the whole looks melancholy and deserted.

Passing from hence by a mill, and under a grove of firs, we approach the small ruins of Waverly abbey, built by William Gifford, bishop of Winchester, for Cistercian monks, commonly called White monks; which abbey being a grandchild (as they termed

termed it) from Cisterce in Burgundy, was so fruitful here in England, that it was mother of Gerondon, Ford, Tame, &c. and grandmother to Bordesley, Biddleston, Bruer, Bindon, and Dunkeswell; for so religious orders used to have their pedigrees as a deduction of colonies out of them. The Cistercians were likewise produced from the Benedictines; they were so called from Cistertium, or Cisteaux, in the bishopric of Chalons in Burgundy, where they had their beginning 1098; being instituted by one Robert, who had been an abbot of Moleme, in that province; from which he, with twenty of his religious, had withdrawn, on account of the wicked lives of his monks. But they were brought into repute by Stephen Harding, an Englishman, their third abbot, who gave them some additional rules to those of St. Benedict: these were called *Charitatis Chartæ*, and confirmed 1107, by pope Urban II. Stephen is therefore by some reckoned their principal founder. They were also called Bernardines, from St. Bernard, abbot of Clerival, or Clarivaux, in the diocese of Langros, about 1116, and who himself founded 160 monasteries of this order. Sometimes they were styled White monks, from the colour of their habit; which was a white cassock, with a narrow scapulary, and over that a black gown when they went abroad; but a white one when they went to church; (they pretending that the Virgin Mary appeared to St. Bernard, and commanded him to wear, for her own sake, such white cloaths.) Their monasteries were very numerous, generally built in solitary uncultivated places, and all dedicated to the holy Virgin. This order came over 1128, and had their first house at Waverly, in Surrey, and before the dissolution had 85 houses here*.

On the scite of this stands a large modern mansion, consisting of a body ornamented with a double flight of steps and pilasters. The wings appear double, and are extended some distance from the house. It was built by the late sir Robert Rich, and now inhabited by Dr. Bostock, a fortunate divine, who married his only daughter.

Another charming day we left Farnham on our right to inspect the large remains of an encampment, situate on the north side of Law-day hill, so called from a house of that name, where a court is held for the bishop's manor. The form of it is circular, and therefore I imagine Saxon, though tradition says Julius Cæsar had a station here. It is surrounded by a double foss towards the south, and strongly fortified by an abrupt precipice towards the north. The view from hence being very extensive, was proper to command the motions of an enemy. This heath, soon uniting with Bagshot, they extend together near 30 miles.

Our next excursion was in a contrary direction towards the small town of Odiam. On our way we passed through Dogmer's-field-park, the seat of sir Henry St. John, bart. The house is by no means a pleasing object, a flat mass of heavy building, not very modern, nor of sufficient antiquity to be curious. The park, however, has many beauties; is well stocked with deer, and affords excellent shady rides. To the north, where seems a great want of wood, stands a large Gothic arch of curious workmanship; which is a much finer object from the windows at Eusshot, above described, than to its own mansion. There are several similar objects about the west end of the park, and a noble sheet of water: but the most delightful of all, are the groups of oaks, hawthorns, and other suitable plantations, which intersect this part of the park in various unformal avenues, &c. Without these walls a similar scene continues along Rye common to Eusshot, where we had the satisfaction to observe an excellent new road,

* Grose's Antiquities, preface, p. 40.

intended I believe for a turnpike, in great forwardness. Odiam, though now a poor looking place, was formerly a free borough of the bishop of Winchester's, and noted for its royal palace; the traces of these walls are still visible. About a mile to the northward of the town, and near the river are situated the ruins of the old castle. When, or by whom it was built, does not appear. In the reign of King John, it belonged, with the town, to the bishop of Winchester; but was afterwards, as appears by a manuscript catalogue of the records in the tower made by Vincent the herald, now in the library of the College of Arms, granted by Henry IV., together with the manor and liberty, to the lord Beaumont for his life; and in the reign of Edward III. leased to sir B. Brocas, for 5l. per annum. Matthew Paris mentions a gallant defence made here, 1216, by only three officers and ten soldiers, against a French army, furnished with the warlike machines of those times necessary for sieges, and commanded by Lewis, the Dauphin of France. "Such was the bravery of this little garrison, that, on the third day, when the French began to batter it furiously, the three officers, and as many private men, sallied out, and seizing the like number of officers and men belonging to the enemy, returned safe into the castle. After a siege of 15 days, they surrendered it to the Dauphin, on condition of retaining their freedom, with their horses and arms, and marched out without having lost a man, to the great admiration of the French. This castle is likewise memorable for being the place of confinement of David Bruce, King of Scotland, who was taken prisoner by John Copeland, governor of Roxborough castle, in a battle fought at Nevil's cross, near Durham, Oct. 17, 1346, where the English army was commanded by Philippa, Queen of Edward the IIIrd. After remaining here 11 years, he was released, on giving hostages for the payment of a ransom of 100,000 marks*." In 1761, when Mr. Grose made the drawing, nothing remained but the keep, which is an octagonal building, the north-west side nearly demolished. "There are the traces of some ditches, but no walls, or other ruins, sufficient to point out its ancient shape or extent, when entire." It is still much the same as this description, and the print, shew it to have been then, except being sadly disguised by an inclosure of firs. About five or six years ago, in digging, they found the remains of the draw-bridge and much lead. It now belongs to sir Henry St. John, who probably will explore more into the surrounding fofs, as no doubt many valuable relicks might be found. The situation is very uncastle-like; the only motive for this choice must have been the surrounding stream, which enabled them to lay the whole flat under water.

Let it be remembered too, that Odiam was the birth-place of that famous grammarian, Mr. William Lilly, master of St. Paul's school.

It may not be improper here to introduce some account of what promises to be of the greatest utility to this county, viz. a navigable canal from the town of Basingstoke to the river Wey in Surrey, and thence to communicate with London by the Thames. The general utility of all inland navigations, the prosperity of agriculture, trade, and manufactures arising from them, are too well known to admit of any further doubt. The value of land must proportionably increase upon every improvement of conveyances; and provisions and commodities become more plentiful and reasonable.

What have at different periods fallen under my own observation, are sufficient proofs in favour of these assertions. The canal of the great duke of Bridgewater, who may justly be called the parent and founder of all similar works in this kingdom, is a very

* Grose.

striking instance of public utility in the vicinity of that most flourishing manufacture at Manchester; and no doubt the vast fortune which this noble adventurer thus sacrificed for the good of his country, at a time of life when others squander their patrimony in useless dissipation, will amply be repaid.

Another instance of the wonderful advantage of such navigable communications I can mention, that fell more immediately under my eye, viz. that immense cut from the Trent to the Duke's canal and the Mersey, for the junctions of the Eastern and Western ocean. This I saw in its very infancy, and have often trod upon near forty miles of the ground it now occupies, before the dawn of its execution, and even before it was believed possible to be accomplished. But what will not the genius of Britain aspire to, and successfully perform! An all-contriving power was given us in the great Mr. Brindley, sufficient to encounter all difficulties, and to remove the most perplexing obstacles. To his perforating hand the immense hills and stubborn rocks were no insurmountable difficulty; and he could with the greatest ease carry water over waters.

This great enterprize was begun July 17, 1766. Its entire length is 93 miles from Wildon-ferry, in the county of Derby, to its junction with the Duke's canal at Preston-on-the-hill, in Cheshire. The common dimensions of the canal are 29 feet, breadth at top; 16 at bottom, and four 1-half deep. It contains 75 locks; 189 cart-bridges, and 11 foot-bridges. It is carried over the river Dove, on an aqueduct of 23 arches; also over the Trent, on an aqueduct of six arches of 21 feet span each; and again, over the Dane, in Cheshire, on three arches of 20 feet diameter. There are moreover about 160 lesser aqueducts and culvetts, for the conveyance of brooks and streams under the canal. The mountains and rocks, that obstructed its common passage, are perforated through as follows; the most southern is at Hermitage, a village near Rudgley, in Staffordshire. I saw this soon after it was begun, when works of this kind were gazed at with astonishment, but now they are become numerous and common; this cavity or tunnel, as it is called, is 130 yards long, with a haling path for horses on one side, in the manner they pass under the arch of a bridge. The tunnel through Hare-castle hill, beyond Burslem, in the north part of the same county, was a work of enormous difficulty and expence, and executed in a manner worthy the great undertaker. It is 2880 yards in length; nine feet wide, and 12 high, lined and arched throughout with brick, except towards the middle, where near 500 yards are solid rock, blown up with gunpowder. The strata are very various, and contain a great body of coal, for which reason there are many collateral cavities deviating from the main cut into those works. I visited this tunnel about the year 1770, soon after it was finished, when pleasure boats were then kept for the purpose of exhibiting this great wonder; the impression it made on my mind, is still very fresh. The procession was solemn; some enlivened this scene with a band of musick, but we had none; as we entered far, the light of candles was necessary, and about half-way, the view back upon the mouth, was like the glimmering of a star, very beautiful. The various voices of the workmen from the mines, &c. were rude and awful, and to be present at their quarrels, which sometimes happen when they meet, and battle for a passage, must resemble greatly the ideas we may form of the regions of Pluto. But such disputes are carefully avoided, by having fixed hours to pass each way. At Barnton, in the parish of Great Budworth, Cheshire, is another tunnel, 560 yards long; at Saltenford, in the same parish, is another 350 yards long; and finally, at Preston-on-the-hill, is another 1240 yards long; each of them are 17 feet four inches high, and 13 feet six inches wide.

And though the expence attending this astonishing work was enormous, so as to promise little or no profit to the adventurers; yet in a few years after it was finished, I saw the smile of hope brighten every countenance; the value of manufactures arise in the most unthought of places; new buildings and new streets spring up in many parts of Staffordshire, where it passes; the poor no longer starving on the bread of poverty; and the rich grow greatly richer. The market town of Stone in particular soon felt this comfortable change; which from a poor insignificant place is now grown neat and handsome in its buildings, and from its wharfs and busy traffic, wears the lively aspect of a little sea port.

But to return from this digression, to a more minute description of the one before us. An act of parliament for this purpose was obtained in the year 1778: and the legislature, convinced of the utility of the scheme, for the encouragement of the adventurers, granted them more than usual terms of advantage; particularly in giving them a right to half tonnage for all sort of manure, in which a view was had to the cultivation of that prodigious tract of waste lands, Bagshot and other adjacent heaths. It was thought better not at that time to push the scheme, during the burdens of our expensive and complicated war; this desirable event, therefore, being postponed till the return of peace has now fully taken place; subscriptions being raised to the amount of 86,000*l.* amongst about 150 proprietors, with a reserve of raising in the same manner what more may be wanted. Mr. Pinkerton is the contractor, and Mr. Jeshop the surveyor, who have engaged to complete the same in four years. They have begun to work in the parish of Chertsey, near the river Wey, and on the farther side of Grewell-hill, about two miles west of Odiam, where there will be a tunnel upwards of 800 yards in length. I visited this place soon after, and saw above 100 men at work, preparing a wide passage for the approach to the mouth, but they had not entered the hill. The morning was remarkably fine,

“ The pale descending year, yet pleasing still,”

and such an assembly of these sons of labour greatly enlivened the scene. The contractor, agreeable to the request of the company of proprietors, gives the preference to all the natives who are desirous of this work, but such is the power of use over nature, that while these industrious poor are by all their efforts incapable of earning a sustenance, those who are brought from similar works, cheerfully obtain a comfortable support. The property under which this tunnel is intended to pass, belonged lately to lord Northington, but now by purchase to the present lord Dorchester. The hill is cloathed with a beautiful growing wood of oak, called Butter-wood, which uniting with another part, called Barkley, extends a considerable length.

From Basingstoke to Dead-Brook, near Aldershot, 28 miles, will be a reach of remarkable length, without the necessity of a lock, from this they will provide themselves with a reservoir of water, by making this part one foot deeper than the similar canals. The remainder of the distance, 15 miles, will contain 28 locks; so that the whole length will be 53 miles. From the east side of Grewell, will be a collateral cut of about eight miles, near Tylney-park, to Turgis-green.

This being in the vicinity of many corn-mills, and communicating with the most woody part of the county, and one of the best in England for fine timber, will be a great advantage. The mutual carriage of goods to and from the capital will be of great importance, and the west country manufactures will find from hence an easy and cheap conveyance. An object of still greater importance is the likelihood of this canal

being the means of promoting the cultivation of the extensive barren grounds before-mentioned, through a great part of which it must necessarily pass, after having been first conducted through a country full of chalk, from whence that manure is now carried in large quantities, at the expence of one shilling a waggon-load per mile; whereas by the canal it will cost but one penny a ton for the same distance; and the boats will return laden with peat and peat ashes, (the last are esteemed an excellent manure for fainstoin, clover, &c.) to the mutual benefit of cultivation, and the emolument of the proprietors.

Considering this undertaking only in this limited view; no canal of the same extent is likely to prove of greater advantage to the public or its adventurers; yet if we extend our ideas to what future associations may accomplish, the utility would be unbounded, viz. to continue it quite across the island to the Bristol channel on the one side; and into the British channel, by Southampton or Christchurch, with an arm to Salisbury, on the other; but perhaps this is more a matter of speculation than can be made practicable; else how useful in time of war would such communication be; between the German ocean and the two channels, and between the two great commercial cities, London and Bristol, without being always obliged to wait for various and opposite winds.

The correspondence between London and Bristol being very expensive by land, and tedious by sea, it was natural to endeavour by some means to lessen or remove these difficulties. It has therefore frequently been proposed to make use of the Avon, which runs to Bristol, and the Kennet which falls into the Thames, but remains as yet unaccomplished. In the reign of Charles the second, a bill was brought into the house of commons, to unite, by a new cut from Lechlade, the Thames with the Avon, that passes through Bath. Captain Yarranton proposed the same thing, by uniting the Thames by the Charwell, to the Avon by the Stour, and so to the Severn. These are of such visible importance and utility, and so apparently practicable, that it may be justly wondered they have continued so long in contemplation without being carried into execution.

A junction between the Clyde and Forth, in Scotland, has been some time actually undertaken, and is now nearly brought to a conclusion, which, when quite complete, will be a circumstance of prodigious consequence, considered in a national light; as it will put it effectually in their power to improve all the local advantages this canal must necessarily produce.

In reference to artificial canals, there have been several very considerable ones made at different times, for different purposes, and by different nations. The Cardike or Caerdike by the Romans, 40 miles in extent, connecting the rivers Nyne and Witham, which served to convey corn and other provisions between their station in Northamptonshire and Lincolnshire*. Offa's dike, made by the Saxons from Bristol and Chester: and Fossdike, cut in the reign of Henry I. for opening a communication from Lincoln and York, by the Trent and Humber†.

As our roads over all Europe came in the place of military ways made by the Romans, so their canals served as models for ours. Suetonius speaks in admiration of the canal made by Drusus, which diverted the waters of the Rhine into the Yffelt‡. The junction of the Meuse and Rhine, by a canal 23 miles in length, was made by Corbulo.

* See Moreton's Natural History of Northamptonshire, p. 513 and 515.

† Campbell's Survey of Britain, vol. ii. p. 260.

‡ In Claudio, cap. 1.

to avoid a passage by sea, and at the same time to supply the troops*. Hence these water communications have been so much esteemed in the Low Countries and the United Provinces. In France the canal of Briare unites the Loire and the Seine. It is 33 miles in extent, hath 42 locks, and is of great utility in facilitating the correspondence of the capital with the provinces, to their mutual benefit. It was begun in the reign of Henry IV. and finished under the direction of cardinal Richelieu. The canal of Orleans joins the same rivers, but is shorter, and hath only 22 locks.

Almost every city and great town in China, not immediately seated on a lake, or a river, hath a navigable cut into one or other of them. The grand canal which passes from Canton to Pekin, in a strait line, is upwards of 800 miles in length, having 75 locks, and 44 cities on its banks. The emperor hath near 10,000 vessels thereon, for transporting provisions, manufactures, and the tributes of the provinces to his courts†.

Mr. Clarke's seat at Aldershot was the next object of our entertainment and excursions. This retired spot is situated in an extreme angle of the county, about three miles north-east of Farnham, the grounds that surround it, though not very extensive, are very pleasant and much improved; the Clarkes, whose principal estate was very large at Sutton, in Derbyshire, came into possession of this place by marriage with one of the Pooles, an ancient family of Radborne, near Derby.

At a small distance from this, we visited the ruins of Aldershot Place, which belonged formerly to the Whites, and was carried by marriage with Mary, daughter and coheir of Robert White, about 1600, to sir Walter Tichborne, knight of Tichborne, near Alresford in this county, ancestor of the present baronet, whose family have been in possession of that seat ever since Henry II. Little of the house remains, except one end, which is appropriated to the use of a farm; but a moat walled round upon a small scale, and the traces of a draw-bridge, are very perfect; the marks of a large avenue are likewise visible on one side; this estate is now sold to Mr. ———, of Oxfordshire, who is lord of the manor hereabouts. In the small church at Aldershot, which is only a chapel of ease to Crundall, are the monuments of lady Mary Tichborne, and 13 children, who died 1620; and of lady Ellen, wife of sir Richard Tichborne, sister and coheir of Robert White; she died 1606. Here I also observed a mural marble tablet, to the memory of that industrious compiler of the law, Charles Viner, who, in a small house in this village, had a press erected by the booksellers, in order that his very elaborate work, consisting of 24 volumes folio, might be printed under his immediate inspection.

From hence we made an agreeable excursion into the adjacent county, to see Guildford and some of the principal objects in its vicinity. The road from Farnham is very remarkable, along the ridge of an high chalky hill, called the Hog's-back, which commands most delightful and extensive views every way; over Bagshot-heath to the north-west, almost to South-downs in Suffex to the south-east, and as far as the eye can reach to the west. About four miles on this road, to our left we see a modern edifice, situated low, but amidst an agreeable verdure, called Pile-house, the present residence of the marquis of Lothian. Not far from this, in an agreeable vale on our right, stands Puttenham, a handsome house and pleasure grounds, belonging to captain Cornish; the only fault is its being too near the village; if it were on the opposite side of the lawn, it would be extremely beautiful.

* Tacit. Annal. lib. 9th.

† Kircheri Illustr. lib. 5th. Navaret. lib. 1. cap. 19. &c. *Campbell's Survey.*

Farther to the right is Godalming, a small market town, deriving its name from Godiva's alms or charity, as supposed to have been given by lady Goda, or Godiva, to some religious house. It is said before the conquest to have been an episcopal see, and that the bishop's seat was Loseley, near Guildford. This see has been so long dissolved, that we have no further mention of it in history, than its being taken away in Henry II's time, and the estates conferred on the deanry of Sarum. At this place lives the reverend Mr. Manning, an able antiquarian, formerly fellow and tutor of Queen's College, Cambridge, who is now, I understand, employed in collecting materials for the history of Surrey.

Loseley, which is situated in a retired vale, about two miles from Guildford, was, as we mentioned before, supposed to have been a bishop's seat to the see of Godalming; and as an evidence of it, there was at the end of the causey, a bridge, called the Bishop's-bridge, which has ever since been repaired by the possessor of Loseley-house, though it stands upon the common road. This seat afterwards belonged to the ancient family of the Moore's, who were created baronets, 1642, and have been long extinct. It now belongs to two ladies of the name of Molineux. The approach to this venerable pile is through a fine old avenue in the midst of a park. By the architecture it seems to have been built about the time of King Henry VII. The present appearance of the building is large, though formerly much more spacious; indeed the form of it shews much has been destroyed, for there is now only one wing joined to the front, which looks very awkward. The entrance is through a screen into a large old hall, about 45 feet by 30, and lofty, which much resembles that of a college: it is now quite plain, but in the last century we are told it was hung with targets, cullivers, pikes, swords, &c. Much of this spacious building is lost "in passages that lead to nothing;" there are only two more rooms worth notice, a drawing-room and gallery; the former is about 36 by 27, the ceiling richly divided into square compartments, and the chimney-piece very curiously wrought with chalk, &c. over which are several coats of arms; and the walls are ornamented with many good portraits; the founder of the family, dated 1500 and odd; Sir Thomas More, the chancellor, who was beheaded in the reign of Henry VIII. Anne Boleyn, taken just before she was beheaded, very beautiful and valuable; and many others, which for want of a catalogue, or some local information, I could no further describe. The gallery, 124 feet by 25, is very light and beautiful, the pictures were numerous, but not now hung up. Queen Elizabeth is said to have visited this place frequently, and there is a room amongst the bed-chambers that still bears her name.

Guildford, or Guldeford, the capital of this county, is a well built old town, pleasantly situated on the side of a chalk hill; at the foot of which the river Wey winds a navigable stream to the Thames. In the time of the Saxons it was a royal vill, given by King Alfred to his nephew Ethelwald; who, according to some authorities, had a large palace, now totally defaced; the keep of an old castle, however, still makes a conspicuous figure, once no doubt very large. In the reign of Harold the Dane, about 1057, we have an account of a most horrid massacre committed here by Godwin, earl of Kent, whereby 600 Normans were cruelly put to death; and Alfred, who came at their head to claim and recover his inheritance, as only son of King Ethelred, had his eyes put out, and was sent to a prison in the isle of Ely, where he languished and expired. In 1216, Lewis, Dauphin of France, having landed with his forces at Sandwich in Kent, in consequence of an invitation from the barons to accept the crown, in the reign of King John, besieged and took this castle, but afterwards surrendered by order of the pope's legate. It had been used for a gaol as far back as Edward I.;

and in Edward III's it was given to the sheriff both for a gaol and a dwelling-house for himself; how much longer it thus continued does not appear. In 1611 it was granted by King James I. to Francis Carter, of Guildford, and at present it is the joint property of Mr. Loveday and Tempest. In the chalky cliff adjacent to this, and near South-street, is a large suite of caverns, very curious, but the entrance is now closed up by the fragments of fallen chalk. Mr. Newland, of Guildford, shewed me a drawing of them, taken a few years ago, by which appeared a small passage into a cave, about 45 feet by 20, and 10 high; to the north and south are two other caverns, the former about 70 feet long, and from two to twelve wide; the latter is near 140 long, but narrow; from this passage run eastward five other cavities near 100 feet long, very narrow at the entrance, but increasing to a considerable breadth. Various have been the stories and conjectures about these singular places, but I think there is little doubt of their origin, when we come to examine what a number of buildings were formerly wrought with chalk in this town. In the High-street I saw a very curious crypt, or vault, now occupied by a wine-merchant, the pillars and arches of beautiful Gothic, and formed entirely of squared chalk. For what purpose this was originally intended, or at what time made, is not certain; it is thought at least to be coeval with the castle, and probably belonged to some of its out-buildings. A good representation of it is given by Mr. Grose in his *Antiquities*.

Opposite Trinity church stands a fine hospital, built in a quadrangular form, with a large tower at the entrance, and four turrets on the top. It was founded by George Abbot, archbishop of Canterbury, who endowed it for 12 men, a master, and eight women, (now also 12) for which purpose he laid the first stone in 1619, and settled lands thereon to the value of 300*l.* per annum. In the north-east corner is a neat chapel with two painted windows, representing in good colours, the story of Jacob and his family, &c. On the walls hang a good half-length portrait of the founder, and an excellent one of sir Nicholas Kempe, knt. who left 600*l.* to this institution, by Paul Vanfomer. Here are three parish churches, dedicated to the Holy Trinity, St. Mary, and St. Nicholas. Also a royal grammar school of good repute, founded in the time of Edward VI. 1509. There is too a large building called the Friary, situated near the Wey, over which was formerly a drawbridge to a park well stocked with deer, now converted into arable land; they are both the property of lord Onslow, whose seat is at Clandon-place, just by.

In the road to Portsmouth, about a mile from Guildford, we saw delightfully situated on a hill, called in ancient records Drake-hill, the remains of a chapel, which was dedicated to St. Catherine, and has always been admired by travellers as a curious piece of ruin; the materials of which it is built are said to be as hard as iron; and to all appearance it has stood the storm of ages. When it was founded is uncertain, but mention was made of it in the Pipe-rolls of Henry III. and in the reign of Edward I. The tradition is, that this, and another similar one, dedicated to St. Martha, and situated about two miles distant, were built by two sisters, Katherine and Martha. The site, together with this chapel, was purchased of the abbey of Whernwell, by Richard de Wauney, parson of St. Nicholas in Guildford, for a chapel of ease to him and his successors for ever. From the top of a cave, on the west side of this hill, is a spring, which continues to drop in the driest season.

From this side of Hampshire we visited the more northern parts about Basingstoke, &c. At Ash, the residence of the Rev. George Lefroy, and one of the best and largest parsonage houses I ever beheld, (it being built by the present rector,) we saw a very curious cabinet of coins, and other antiques, collected by his father, the late Anthony Lefroy.

Lefroy, esq. a very judicious antiquarian, and indefatigable collector, whose name is well known among the connoisseurs in this line*, by his "Museum Lefroyanum †," and his twelve coins, of which a description was presented to the society of Antiquaries, written by his friend Proposto Venuti ‡. His principal collection afterwards came into the hands of Mr. Anson, of Shugborough, in Staffordshire. But still there remains in Mr. Lefroy's possession a curious small collection, such as we had not met with in all our former researches. Here lay before us in abundance what we searched many a Roman vestige, and pored over the barrows of the dead for, in vain. Perhaps, however, there are many whom a quantity thus displayed to them, would not give half the pleasure they would receive from having, with their own hands, procured one rare piece from the countless rubbish in which it had long lain buried. There too often lies the selfish pleasure of collectors. We, however, were delighted with the intrinsic value of the antiques themselves. Among the rest, we admired a pair of Etruscan ear-rings, of small and delicate gold work, so well preserved, that, were it not for the authority of a faithful antiquarian, we should have believed them modern.

In the house are a few miniature portraits; of which two or three elegant ones by Cooper struck me. One of them, of a lady Marham, (of the Romney family;) another of sir William Mainwaring, killed at the siege of Chester, 1645; a youthful face, with beautiful flowing yellow hair; another of his wife; afterwards re-married to sir Henry Blount of Tittenhanger. From the windows of the rooms up-stairs are some very pleasing pastoral views over green meadows, from which rise gentle hills skirted with wood. Ash park, a white house peeping from among trees, on one of these hills, is a very picturesque object. From hence we visited that mansion. The grounds fall in gentle declivities each way from it, and are interspersed with fine woodlands. It was the property of sir George Shuckburgh, of Shugborough in Warwickshire, who had other estates in this neighbourhood, which he sold to Mr. Portal, of Freefolk, near Overton adjoining. Mr. Holder is the gentleman who at present resides here. About two miles to the right of this are the remains of an old dilapidated place, of the name of Lichfield, formerly no doubt of some consequence, but whether a religious house, or what, is not easily to be traced.

The land hereabouts is for the most part of a flinty nature, and lets upon an average, the arable with the meadow, from seven to twenty shillings an acre.

To the west of this, about two miles, lies Overton, a small town upon the western road. The situation is low, and its buildings very indifferent; what is most remarkable here are a large silk-mill, situated upon a small stream that runs close by, famous for its trout, and a large paper-mill in the adjoining parish of Freefolk, before-mentioned; the former belongs to Mr. Streatfield, and affords employment for many hands, but is very inferior to the original one I have seen at Derby; the latter is a very profitable work, and belongs to Mr. Portal, who has a new house upon the spot, with agreeable plantations, adjoining to Laverstock, an ancient seat, inhabited by general Matthew.

We made an excursion from hence about 14 miles south by west, to see the noble and ancient city of Winchester. Our course was unconfined to roads, almost as the

* See Memoirs of Thomas Hollis, esq. vol. i. p. 109. &c.

† See Catalogus Numismaticus Musei Lefroyani. Liburni, Anno MDCCLXIII.

‡ Duodenorum Numismatum antehac ineditorum Brevis Expositio. Philippus de Venutis Præpositus Eccl. Liburnen. Selegit ex Gazophylacio Cl. V. Antonii Lefroy, Angli, et Nobiliss. Viro Hugoni, Lordio Willoughby de Parham, Societatis Londinensis Antiquariæ Præsidi dicavit.

bird flies. The country soon spread into a vast expanse of large arable lands and open downs. The mist of early day hung at first too thick upon the hills to afford much prospect; yet ere we had finished half our course, the sky brightened, and displayed the country fully, but without any extraordinary charms; the scene was too uniformly open to be pleasing, though perhaps to a sportsman, the whole might be esteemed excellent. We crossed the Stockbridge road, and had a view of Stratton park, belonging to the duke of Bedford, and at present inhabited by Mr. Crook, who I understand is about to leave it soon, when lord John Russell means to take possession. A few miles further we passed by the small village of Weston, a hamlet belonging to Michaeldever, where the duke has lately purchased another house, or rather a farm of Mr. Bristow. Beyond this we leave the seat of sir Chaloner Ogle on our left, embosomed in many trees, formerly belonging to lord Kingston. A little to the east of this, where the river Itchin winds its course to Winchester, stands Avington, the seat of the duke of Chandos, devised to him by George Brydges, esq. of Keynsham, and of this place.

We now soon came into the turnpike road, and approached the venerable city. The first object from hence is the unfinished palace of Charles II. on the site of the old castle. The rest of the town lies too much below to be well distinguished.

Winchester was the metropolis of the British Belgæ, called by Ptolemy and Antoninus, Venta Belgarum, and by the Britains, Caer Gwent, or the White City, from its situation upon chalk. It is reputably affirmed to have been founded by Ludor Hudibras, 892 years before the nativity of Christ. There is no doubt of it having been a celebrated station of the Romans, and probably one of their cities, as appears from the discovery of several pavements, and coins of Constantine the Great. Camden says, that during the Saxon heptarchy, this city was the residence of the West Saxon kings, who adorned it with magnificent churches, and an episcopal see; and was also endowed by King Athelstan with the privilege of six mints. From its first foundation to the time of the conquest, it was three times destroyed by fire; and in the civil war between Maud the Empress and King Stephen, it suffered much desolation from the hands of insolent soldiers. But these sufferings were amply repaired by Edward III. who fixed here a staple for wool and woollen manufactures. This city is said to have been first fortified by Guidorius, 179, and the present walls to have been built by Moleutius Dunwallo, 341. On the south and east sides they remain almost entire, and many fragments are to be seen on the north and west, particularly a bastion, called the Hermit's tower. There were formerly six gates belonging to this city, one of which still remains, except one of the posterns, called the king's gate. On the west, north, and south sides, is a prodigious deep foss, but to the meadows, which were easily flooded by the river, such a defence was thought unnecessary. Before we proceed to describe more fully its buildings and present state, it may not be unprofitable to recite some of its most remarkable transactions and occurrences.

In 1112, King Henry I. granted the first free charter to this city, whereby the inhabitants were incorporated by the name of the guild of merchants. Soon after this, Winchester is said to have risen to the summit of her glory, and became the residence of the first persons in the kingdom. Henry I. under whose reign it so much flourished, took his wife Maud, daughter of Malcolm, King of the Scots, out of a nunnery here; by which marriage the Saxon and Norman blood were united. At the death of this king, the effects of a dispute for the crown were severely felt by a siege which lasted seven weeks. A dreadful fire also happened, that consumed above

twenty parish churches, the king's palace, and a vast number of houses. This so much depopulated the city, that it never arrived to the same extent and perfection. King Henry II. held a parliament here 1172, and was crowned with his Queen Margaret, by Rotred, archbishop of Roan.

King John kept his court here about 1207, and granted a new charter to the city, with many privileges. Not long after the barons rose, and took possession of this city, but the citizens were not disposed to favour them. King John rewarded the loyal inhabitants by the following grant; "that they do continue for ever to be incorporated by the name of mayor and burgeses of the guild of merchants of the city of Winchester, with perpetual succession." About this period Henry III. was born here, who also kept his Christmas in this city, 1239. Also about 1254, when he was at variance with the barons, he retired here for safety; but on the approach of Mountfort, earl of Leicester, at the head of their army, he fled to Reading, when the earl took the castle, sacked the city, and put many of its inhabitants, particularly Jews, to the sword.

The great plague brought into England 1348, so much reduced this city, that a fine ox sold at 4s. the best cow at 2s. sheep at 6d. hog 5d. and twelve pigeons for one penny. In 1377 the French, landing at Portsmouth, marched up the country, and besieged this city; but were driven back again by the inhabitants with great slaughter. Soon after this the insurrection headed by Wat Tyler did considerable damage to the suburbs of this city. In the civil wars between Henry IV. and earl Northumberland, it was a great sufferer. Also in 1497 this city was attacked by the rebels under the command of lord Dudley.

Queen Elizabeth visited this city, and was elegantly entertained by the mayor in the castle, of which she made him constable, and raised the salary of that office to 6l. 13s. 6d. per annum. And at her departure was graciously pleased to signify her intention of renewing their charter, which was afterwards granted, and is the same by which the city is governed to this day. In 1625 a sad pestilence broke out here, and carried off numbers of the inhabitants, without spreading into other parts. During the civil wars in the reign of Charles I. sir William Waller took this city under the direction of Oliver Cromwell, who vented all his fury upon the castle, till the whole of that magnificent structure was levelled with the ground. But while this place was in the possession of the parliament party, the garrison at Basingstoke was very troublesome to them.

After the restoration, King Charles II. made many progresses to this city, particularly while the royal palace, which he never lived to finish, was building. In 1668, a most dreadful plague broke out and raged here for almost twelve months. Cart loads of the dead were daily carried out and buried on the neighbouring downs. To prevent the progress of the contagion, the markets were removed to a proper distance from the city, and an obelisk, in memory of that unfortunate æra, is erected on the spot where the markets were held. We will now proceed to further descriptions in the order in which we inspected this city. Near the west gate, upon a large eminence, are the ruins of a strong castle, said to have been built by King Arthur, 523; which was a place of remarkable defence in the reign of King Stephen. Heylin describes it to be "a gallant, but not a great castle, bravely mounted on a hill for defence and prospect." The chapel, which was originally detached, is still entire, and is a fine building, consisting of three aisles, 110 feet long, and 55 wide. The assizes for the county were held in this castle as early as 1272; but at present this chapel is fitted up for that purpose. At one end we observed King Arthur's round table, as it is commonly

monly called, which is about 18 feet diameter. The following beautiful description of it is found in Warton's Sonnets.

Where Venta's Norman castle still uprears,
Its rafter'd hall, that o'er the grassy fofs,
And scatter'd flinty fragments, clad in moss,
On yonder steep in naked state appears,
High-hung remains, the pride of warlike years,
Old Arthur's board; on the capacious round
Some British pen has sketch'd the names renown'd,
In marks obscure, of his immortal peers.
Though join'd with magic skill, with many a rhyme,
The Druid frame, unhonour'd, falls a prey
To the slow vengeance of the wifard time,
And fade the British characters away;
Yet Spencer's page, that chants in verse sublime
Those chiefs, shall live, unconscious of decay.

Many authorities, besides that of Camden, might be quoted to prove this table of modern date; yet perhaps it is of higher antiquity than some have imagined; for Paulus Jovius, who wrote above two hundred years ago, relates, that it was shewn to the emperor Charles V. and that at that time many marks of its antiquity had been destroyed, the names of the knights written afresh, and the whole newly repaired. Mr. Warton, in his description* of Winchester, says, tournaments being often held here before the court and parliament, this table might probably have been used, on those occasions, for entertaining the combatants; which, on that account, was properly inscribed with the names of Arthur's knights; either in commemoration of that prince, who was the reputed founder and patron of tilts and tournaments; or because he was supposed to have established these martial sports at Winchester.

On the site of the old castle we see the unfinished relicks of a most noble royal palace, begun by Charles II. 1683, the shell of which shews the magnificent intention. A cupola was designed 30 feet higher than the roof, which would have been seen at sea. The length of the whole is 328 feet. A street was intended from the centre of the west end of the cathedral. And a park was projected ten miles in circumference: but the king's death prevented the execution of this noble plan. During the war it was used as a prison for the French, &c. that were taken; and several hundred were confined here. We saw an apartment which they appropriated for their chapel; and various relicks of their devotion, paintings, and inscriptions still remain.

Passing over the rest of the buildings in this city, we shall conclude with a short account of the college and cathedral. The former is situated on the south east of the cathedral, just without the city wall. It consists of numerous buildings and offices, suitable to its noble foundation, which owes its origin to the famous William, of Wykeham, Bishop of Winchester, who had the first stone laid March 26, 1387, near a school in which he, when a boy, was educated. The building was compleated March 28, 1393, for a warden, ten fellows one master, one usher, three chaplains, seventy scholars, three clerks and sixteen choristers. To enumerate every particular, and note every part of these buildings would be impossible in a work of this kind. Entering the second quadrangle under a stately tower, we observe on the south side the chapel

* To which I am indebted for much information.

and hall. The latter is a noble gothic room about 63 by 33 feet, in which the scholars dine and sup.

The chapel is esteemed equal to most, in point of size, furniture and solemnity. Its dimensions are 102 by 33 feet. The screens, stalls, and altar-piece are richly carved of the Ionic order, and the altar displays a fine salutation piece; by Le Moine. On the north side stands the organ. The roof is covered with wood in imitation of arched stone work.

From hence turning on our left we come into the cloisters, which constitute a square of 132 feet. In the centre of the area stands the library, an elegant gothic building erected in the time of Henry VI, by John Fromond, who intended it for a chapel, but it was converted into its present purpose, 1629, by Robert Pink, warden. To the west of the cloisters, stands the school; which is a finely proportioned room and elegantly finished.

From the school area we pass into the college meadow, from whence is a fine prospect of Catharine-hill, on the top of which, Leland says, there was a fair chapel dedicated to that Saint. It was endowed with lands, and suppressed by Cardinal Wolsey.

To this hill, which is very delightful, affording an admirable view of the city, interspersed with trees and gardens, magnificent and venerable structures, besides an extensive country of hills and vallies, woods and downs, the scholars are allowed to wander on holidays. This indulgence, I fear, by frequent repetition, becomes a task rather than a pleasure, and few of them will sincerely join with the poet Grey in his beautiful exclamation:

“ Ah happy hills ! ah pleasing shade !

Ah fields beloved in vain !

Where once my careless childhood stray'd,

A stranger yet to pain !

I feel the gales that from ye blow,

A momentary bliss bestow,

As waving fresh their gladsome wing ;

And redolent of joy and youth

My weary soul they seem to sooth,

And breathe a second spring !

We now went to inspect the cathedral, originally begun A. D. 611, by Kyngeise, the first christian king of the West Saxons, and finished by his successor Kenwalch, and endowed by him, and other royal benefactors. The chapter of this foundation, who were seculars, continued about 300 years, and were at last removed by the persuasion of Bishop Ethelwold, in the reign of King Edgar 963, who substituted a convent of Benedictines, which remained till the reformation. About 1079 Bishop Wakelyne began the present edifice, and finished the tower, choir, transept, and west end. And the monks passed, in state and triumph, from the old monastery to this new one on St. Swithin's day, 1093. The appearance on the outside is flat and heavy, no relief of spires, pinnacles, or other Gothic ornaments. But the inside is magnificent and pleasing; its dimensions from east to west are 545 feet, of which the lady's chapel takes up 54, and the choir 136; transept 186. Height of the tower 138. At the entrance of the tower is the stone screen of the composite order, executed by the famous Inigo Jones. The admirers of Grecian architecture will think this very beautiful, but the lovers of Gothic must feel the incongruity of such a structure. On the right hand stands a brass statue of James I.; on the left, one of Charles I. The stalls are of Norway oak, and are very beautiful. In the area leading to the high altar, is a plain raised

raised tomb, of grey stone, under which William Rufus, who was shot, as before-mentioned, in the New Forest, is buried. The rebels in the civil wars plundered this tomb of a gold cloth, and a ring set with rubies, of 500*l.* value; also a small silver chalice. The altar piece is very rich and handsome; the wood work about it was erected by bishop Fox; but the Canopy, with its festoon ornaments were added about the same time as the screen, in the reign of Charles I. A fine piece of painting has been lately placed over the altar by the dean and Chapter. It was painted by West. The subject is Christ raising Lazarus from the dead. His two sisters are supporting him. One of the twelve is removing the stone from the monument. Behind are several of the apostles. The faces of St. Peter and St. John are plainly distinguished, but the latter is surely pictured too young. On the left is a group of Jews; in the middle is a fine old figure, supposed to represent the father of Lazarus. On the top of each wall that surrounds the Presbytery, are placed chests, which contain the bones of the West Saxon Kings, and others who had been buried behind the altar and different parts of the church. In the aisles are several curious and superb monuments, which would take up too much room in these pages. The north and south transept are curious remains of unfinished Saxon architecture very striking. Full of those awful ideas that arise from the contemplation of such noble objects, we left this place and its venerable city. By a gradual transition we begun to remark again the face of the country. We passed through Stoke Charity, a small village remarkable for numerous surrounding yew trees, that either must have been the natural growth of the place, or the relics of its former consequence. The latter idea is suggested by seeing the traces of an ancient encampment just beyond, called Nursbury, which is surrounded with a single foss and rampart. About two miles west of this, is another similar work, called Tetbury; and on the down near the Stockbridge road I observed three large barrows.

We soon now come to Popham-beacons, places no doubt of observation to the Romans; from whence the prospect is extensive and pleasant, particularly to the west, terminated by Lord Porchester's at Highclear, and the hills that divide the county above Kingsclear.

The time now approached that we were to bid adieu to this hospitable county. The leaves were all off the trees;

Wet with hoar mists appear'd the glittering scene
Which late in careless indolence I past;
And Autumn all around those hues had cast
Where past delight my recent grief might trace.
Sad change, that nature a congenial gloom
Should wear when most, my cheerful mood to chase,
I wish'd her green attire and wonted bloom !*

The dark days of November were indeed calculated to cherish that melancholy, we naturally felt at parting from friends and from scenes, among whom we had experienced so high a kind of pleasure. We were about to be lost for the remaining months of the winter, in the crowds and bustle of the capital, which, whatever pleasure and whatever society it may afford, does not leave that impression on the imagination, which all feeling minds experience after those more pensive enjoyments, that have passed among the picturesque scenery of the county.

* Warton's seventh Sonnet.

We

We have still however one object of our visits and our admiration to describe, which though we saw it some time before, we have reserved to this place, because it lies in our way back to town. Passing along the great turnpike road from Andover to Basingstoke, on our left about six miles from Basingstoke lay the picturesque village of Deane, and a little on our right, Hall-place, the seat of Mr. Bramston. Hence passing through Worting, a small village, we came to the new inclosures, on this side Basingstoke, and observed among the rest a new farm-house of Lord Dartmouth, who has considerable estates about the town in right of his wife, and expects to be a great gainer by the alteration. Upon an hill to the north of the town, the ruins of the Holy Ghost Chapel are here very conspicuous. The rectory of Basingstoke (and I believe the manor, subject to a fee farm rent to the crown) belonged to the priory of Selborn, and from thence went with the other estates of the priory, to Magdalen-college, Oxford, to which it now belongs. The living is a very valuable one, and no doubt greatly improved by the late inclosure. Dr. Shepherd, who was fellow of that society, is the present incumbent.

Passing along the principal street, to our right lay the turning to Hackwood, the seat of the Duke of Bolton, which during our stay in the country, we had an opportunity, by the politeness and condescension of the family, of visiting in a very advantageous manner. The contrast, indeed, with what is too often experienced in visiting the mansions of the nobility was highly delightful to us. For I cannot help reflecting with regret upon the difficulties that travellers undergo, in inspecting many of the houses, that are the objects of their tours. Too often, when after long rides they approach the mansion doubtful of admittance; if at length the favour is gained, they are hurried through the rooms and grounds, under the guidance of illiterate servants, whose fees are more than would purchase an entry to the most expensive place of entertainment in London.

But before we describe Hackwood, we will give some account of Basing castle, the ancient residence of the family, which, going out of Basingstoke, lies on the left of the great road, about a mile and a half from Hackwood.

Basing was the head of the Barony of Hugh de Port, a Saxon, who had a grant or confirmation of 55 Lordships in this county at the Conquest, and was one of the barons, under John de Fienes, who held 14½ knight fees in Kent, by the tenure of performing military service at the castle of Dover*. In the time of Henry II. the castle seems to have been rebuilt; probably in the more splendid manner of architecture, to which they had then arrived (the former one possibly being Saxon); for then John de Port, grandson of Hugh, bestowed on the monks of Sherburne, the chapel of St. Michael, with the land of the old Castle of Basing†. In the reign of Henry III., this family changed their name to St. John, and bore the arms that Lord St. John now bears. In 43 of that reign, Robert Lord St. John obtained a licence to fix a pale upon the bank of his moat at Basing, and to continue it so fortified during the king's pleasure‡. From his younger son are descended the present lords St. John and Bolingbroke. In the time of Edward III., the co-heiress married Lucas, lord Poynings, and brought him this castle and other estates. Constance, the co-heiress of his grandson Hugh, married sir John Powlet, of Noney-castle, in Somersetshire, whose father William (younger brother, of sir Thomas, ancestor to earl Paulet) obtained that seat by marriage with the heiress of Delamare. Sir John by this match came to possess Basing-castle, in the reign of Henry VI.

* See Gent. Mag. for Aug. 1787. page 681, 682, 683, 684.

† Ibid.

‡ Ibid.

For three generations this family continued here as Commoners* ; the barony of St. John being then in abeyance. Then arose the great character, who placed the family in the splendor and honours, in which it has ever since continued. He was born in 1483, 1. Richard III. and afterwards became a student in the Temple, when he was called home 1. Henry VIII. by sir John Powlett, knt. his father, who was then sick, and not able to officiate as justice of the peace, in the shire where he dwelled. He was then put into the commission of the peace, and soon after made Custos Rotulorum of Hampshire. On his father's death†, Henry VIII. sent for him to Richmond, and made him joint surveyor of all his woods, with John Mordaunt, esq. Two years after he was made master of the Wards, and after that rose through a series of places in court, such as scarce any ever enjoyed before. On March 9, 1539, he was created baron St. John, of Basing. Jan. 19, 1550, 3. Edward VI. he was created earl of Wiltshire, and Oct. 12, 1551, 5. Edward VI. marquis of Winchester. Old Naunton‡ says of him, "He had served four princes in various and changeable times and seasons, that I may well say, no time nor age hath yielded the like president : this man being noted to grow high in Queen Elizabeth's favour, as his place and experience required, was questioned by an intimate friend of his, how he had stood for thirty years together, amidst the change and ruin of so many chancellors and great personages? Why, quoth the marquis, *'Ortus sum e salice, non ex quercu.'* 'I am made of pliable willow, not of the stubborn oak.' "It is said of him, and William earl of Pembroke, that being both younger brothers§, yet of noble houses, they spent what was left them, and came on trust to the court, where, upon the bare stock of their wits, they began to traffick for themselves, and prospered so well, that they got, spent, and left more than any subjects from the Norman Conquest to their own times : whereupon it had been prettily spoken, that they had lived in a time of dissolution." Many parts of this account are inaccurate. The marquis never could have spent his paternal estate, for it is at this day, the seat of his descendant the duke. He himself re-built, indeed, the stately castle of Basing, in a most magnificent manner. He had the rare happiness of setting in his full splendor, in 1572, having lived 97 years, and seen 103 descendants of his body. "A man he was, (says Loyd,) that revered himself; that could be virtuous when alone, and good, when only his own theatre, his applause, though excellent before the world, his virtue improving in fame and glory, as an heat which is doubled by reflexion||." In July or August, 1560, he entertained Queen Elizabeth here in a most splendid manner, "and with all good cheer." She being then on her progresses, and coming hither from Winchester. Here she openly and merrily bemoaned herself, that the marquis was so old, "for else, by my troth, (said she) if my lord treasurer were but a young man, I could find in my heart to have him for my husband, before any man in England¶"

It seems extraordinary that his great grandson William, fourth Marquis, should also entertain the same Queen here, which he did in 1601. "Here she took such great content, as well with the seat of the house, as honorable carriage of the worthy lady Lucy,

* See their tombs and arms upon them in Basing church described in Gent. Mag. Dec. 1787. page 1057.

† His father left two younger sons, sir George settled at Crundal, and Richard settled at Herriard. And a daughter Elianor married to sir William Gifford, of Itchell, in Crundal, now called Ewshot, and the seat of Mr. Maxwell, as before mentioned.

‡ In his Fragmenta Regalia, pag. 12.

§ This is wrong of both. The marquis was a younger branch but the eldest son. Lord Pembroke was illegitimate.

|| Worthies, p. 594.

¶ See Queen Elizabeth's Progresses, vol. i. 1560, p. 55.

marchioness of Winchester, (daughter of Thomas Cecil, earl of Exeter,) that she staid there 13 days to the great charge of the said lord marquis."

About the same time the duke de Biron, and certain other noblemen, &c. of France, to the number of 300, were at lord Sandys's at the Vine. "And her Majesty went to him to the Vine and he to her to Basing; and one day he attended her at Basing park on hunting, where the duke staid her coming, and did there see her in such royalty and so attended by the nobility, and so costly furnished and mounted, as the like had seldom been seen, &c. She tarried at Basing thirteen days, being very well contented with all things there done, affirming she had done that in Hampshire, that none of her ancestors ever did, neither that any prince of Christendom could do: that was, she had in her progress, in her subjects houses, entertained a royal ambassador, and royally entertained him*." She went from Basing to Farnham, the bishop of Winchester's.

This Marquis died in 1628 at Hawkwood, where was then only a large hawking room, that is now the hall, with a room or two, I suppose, of accommodation besides. His son, the 5th marquis, was that gallant nobleman, who so bravely defended Basing Castle against the rebels, under Oliver Cromwell. In a two years siege from August 1643, to October 1645, he held out against all the Parliament forces, being heard to say, "that if the king had no more ground in England than Basing house, he would adventure as he did, and so maintain it to the utmost. It was besieged by a conjunction of the rebel forces of Hampshire and Suffex, under the command of Norton, (of Southwick I believe) Onslow, (ancestor to lord Onslow) Jarvis, (of Herriard, I suppose) Whitehead, (probably of Norman Court) and Morley, all colonels of regiments under the command of Norton a man of spirit, and of the greatest fortune of all the rest. The marquis told Morley when he summoned him to yield to the Parliament, that he knew no Parliament without the king, by whose orders he kept the house, adding, that he would keep his summons as a testimony of his rebellion†.

It was afterwards relieved in a very gallant manner by colonel Gage, the particulars of which are very minutely related by Lord Clarendon. At length, however, it yielded to the insatiate attacks of Cromwell, and money, jewels, and household stuff, to the amount of 200,000l. were found in it; among which was a rich bed worth 14,000l. A private soldier is said to have got 300l. The loyal motto, which the marquis had caused to be written with a diamond, in every window, *Aimez Loyaultè*, (and which has ever since been the motto of the family) so provoked the rebels, that they burnt the castle to the ground; little of which now remains, except a small part of the outward wall.

The family have resided since the revolution, at least principally, at Hackwood. The marquis, who lived till 1674, probably resided at Englefield, in Berks, as he was buried there; and the first duke, his son, does not seem to have made Hackwood his first object, for he built in a magnificent manner Bolton-hall, in Yorkshire, an estate which came by his wife from the Scropes, where he retired, during the agitated reign of James II. and by feigning a temporary indisposition for political purposes, contributed greatly towards effecting the revolution. Bolton hall, however, though in a most romantic situation, is not much frequented by the present family, as they seem to prefer a residence nearer the capital, and which is endeared too by an uninterrupted possession of noble ancestors from the conquest. This charming seat was at first no more than a hawking-

* In Queen Elizabeth's Progresses, vol. ii. 1601, p. 5. See it more at large.

† Loyd's Loyalists, 577.

box to the castle of Basing, and consisted, as I mentioned, but of one spacious room, which is now the hall. Here then the lovers of Hawking, after their diversion in the park, used to retire, and partake of refreshment. And in length of time, when the castle was rendered no longer habitable, this was enlarged. The first duke, though he made it not his principal object, seems certainly to have built its present form, which bears marks of the revolution year. He was buried at Anneport, by Andover, where Mr. George Powlett, descended from his uncle, sir Henry now resides. The title of marquis of Winchester will fall to this gentleman or his son.

The site of Hackwood is in a charming park, and though the building is not immense, yet it is complete in itself and presents two fronts, pleasing and harmonious to the eye, particularly the back front,* which appears much newer, and commands a finer prospect. The hall is about 40 feet by 30, and 20 high. The varnished oak wainscoat gives it a suitable grandeur, and the carve-work of the famous Gibbons is very beautiful, and of similar designs to what we had lately seen at Holme, belonging to the duke of Norfolk, near Hereford. Here are also several portraits of the family, but the pictures most remarkable are two old portraits in the dining-room, one of John lord marquis of Winchester, probably he who defended Basing-castle; the other, a marchioness, but has no peculiar marks to distinguish her name, yet she was no doubt, his wife, and painted by the same person. This conclusion I was led to by observing the very minute and exact pattern of the lace on both their dresses. The stiffness and unmasterly appearance of her arms may be owing to some injudicious repairs. We also saw two sweet portraits of ladies unknown, by S. Varelst, an admirable painter in the reign of Charles II., whose greatest excellence was in flower pieces, for which he was celebrated by Prior in his poems. His portraits were finished with the same labour and delicacy as his flowers, which he frequently introduced into them. The two pieces we here admired, are full of the magic of his pencil. That in the duchesses dressing-room, exhibits a most beautiful face, and graceful figure, the arms being formed with the greatest ease and elegance imaginable. The light and shade, reflected from the scarlet and purple colours of the drapery, produce a singular effect, which in modern painting would be harsh and taudry, but here it is remarkably pleasing. In a small bed-room below stairs hung the other, almost as beautiful; the skirts of the drapery are extremely rich, and in one corner of the ground, the painter has given his darling accompaniment of flowers. We now proceeded to drive round the park, which is nearly a circle of six miles, and laid out in great variety of ground, most judiciously ornamented with woods and plantations, of which the beech-tree is here remarkably flourishing and abundant. But what still further characterises this admirable place is a beautiful farm, taken out of the south-east side of the park, and sweetly interspersed with groves, tillage, and pasture. It was laid out by the great skill and taste of the late lord Bathurst, the patron of Pope, whose extensive designs we had lately admired at his seat at Cirencester. We now returned towards the back front of the house, and from this part of the park, amongst verdant lawns, gentle hills and vales, graced with foliage, enjoyed an extensive view over part of this county and Berkshire.

Thus gratified we reluctantly departed, and leaving Basingstoke, the great road to London soon brought us to Hertford-bridge; the intermediate inclosures are very pleasant, and we had a glimpse of Tilney-hall, at a small distance on our left, the seat of sir James Long. Passing through the village of Hook we are soon surrounded by some beautiful groves of small oak about Berkley common, which brings us next to a long string

* This latter was built by the late duke.

of houses, called Hartley-row. Opposite the inn at Hertford-bridge, we deviated about a mile and half to see the remains of Elvetham, that noble seat of entertainment to queen Elizabeth, given by the earl of Hertford, its noble owner, 1591. An account of this splendid entertainment was published at the time, and lately made its fresh appearance in Mr. Nichols's work called the Queen's Progresses; a short extract therefore may be an acceptable prelude to our present description.

"Elvetham house beeing scituate in a parke but of two miles in compasse, or thereabouts, and of no great receipt, as beeing none of the earles chiefe mansion-houses, yet for the desire he had to shew his unfained love, and loyall duetie to her most gracious highnesse, purposing to visit him in this her late progresse, whereof he had to understand by the ordinarie guesse, as also by his honourable good friendes in court neare to her Majestie; his honor with all expedition set artificers a work to the number of 300, many daies before her Majesties arrival, to enlarge his house with new rooms and offices. Whereof I omit to speak how manie were destined to the offices of the quene's household, and will onlie make mention of other such buildings as were raised on the sodaine, fourteen score off from the house on a hill side, and within the said parke, for entertainment of nobles, gentlemen, and others whatsoever.

"First, there was made a roome of estate for the nobles, and at the end thereof a withdrawing place for her Majestie. The outsidies of the walls were all covered with boughs, and clusters of ripe hasell nuttes, the insides with arras, the rooffe of the place with works of ivy leaves, the floore with sweet herbes and green rushes. Near adjoining unto this, were many offices new builded; all which were tyled. Not farre off was erected a large hall, for entertainment of knights, ladies, and gentlemen of chief account. There was also a severall place for her majesties footman, and their friendes. Then was there a long bowre for her Majesties guard. Another for other officers of her Majesties house. Another to entertain all commers, suiters, and such like. Another for my lord's steward to keep his table in. Another for his gentlemen that waited.

"Most of these foresaid roomes were furnished with tables, and the tables carrved 23 yards in length.

"Moreover on the same hill, there was raised a great common buttrey; a pitcher-house; a large pastery, with five ovens new built, some of them fourteen feete deepe; a great kitchen, with four ranges, and a boyling-place for small boild meates; another, with a very long range, for the waste, to serve all commers; a boiling-house, for the great boiler; a room for the scullery; another roome for the cookes lodgings.

"Some of these were covered with canvas, and other some with bordes.

"Between my lord's house and the foresayd hill, where these roomes were raised, there had been made in the bottom, by handy labour, a goodly pond, cut to the perfect figure of a half-moon. In this pond were three notable grounds, where hence to present her Majestie with sports and pastimes. The first was a Ship Isle, of 100 feet in length, and 40 broad, bearing three trees orderly set for three masts. The second was a Fort, 20 feet square every way, and overgrown with willows. The third and last was a Snayl's Mount, rising to four circles of green privie hedges, the whole in height 20 feet, and 40 broad at the bottom. These three places were equally distant from the sides of the ponde, and everie one, by a just measured proportion, distant from each other. In the said water were divers boates prepared for musicke; but especially there was a pinnance, full furnisht with masts, yards, fails, anchors, cables, and all other ordinarie tackling, and with iron peeces; and lastly with flagges, streamers, and pendants, to the number of twelve, all painted with divers colours, and sundry devises."

With

With these and various other preparations was this charming park adorned on the great occasion. So on the first days entertainment, having summoned all his retinue together, and instructed them in their several duties, "my lord with his traine (amounting to the number of 300, and most of them wearing chains of gold about their necks, and in their hats yellow and black feathers) met with her majestie two miles off, then coming to Elvetham from her owne house at Odiam, four miles from thence."

When her majesty had got some way into the park she was saluted with a Latin poem, and afterwards by six virgins, who walked before her to the house, strewing the way with flowers, and singing. Being seated in the house, a long volley was discharged from the Snail-mount and Ship-isle in the pond, which she could view from the gallery window. This day's entertainment was then concluded with a supper and concert. But this was greatly exceeded by the entertainments on the three following days, which consisted of various representations on the water, the sports of Nereus, and his nymphs and tritons. On the land Sylvan gods and goddesses, with a mixture of dances and fireworks*.

At what time lord Hertford sold this estate does not appear. More than a century ago, it belonged to the Reynolds's, from whom it came by marriage to the Calthrops. Upon the death of sir Henry Calthrop, k. b. about two years since, who was a long while insane, it came to his nephew, sir Henry Gough, bart. who has added the name of Calthrop to his own. The building is now quite in a dilapidated state, and nothing in the inside but bare walls, and mouldering wainscots†, though inhabited by sir Henry till his death. The rooms are all small except the gallery, and that is too low and narrow; and yet it gave one pleasure to walk in this deserted place, and to be shewn the windows that had afforded such royal prospects. The late owner built a large riding-house close adjoining, which still remains. It is a pity to see this sweetly retired spot thus sinking into ruin, when at a moderate expence it might be refitted and made very habitable; several tenants, I am told, have been desirous to obtain it, but I fear the present possessor has not taste enough to enjoy it himself, nor sufficient respect for its venerable structure, to let it exist by the means of others; for I understand he has frequently threatened its destruction. The park, though small, is very beautiful, the wood fine and flourishing, and the verdure uncommonly fertile and ornamental. In one part of it below the house to the left is still visible, though much grown up with weeds, the pond which was used for the entertainment of Queen Elizabeth.

Having thus far tried the reader's patience in describing these western counties, in a course of more than a thousand miles, which to the author has been a task the most delightful; and having now little or nothing worth remarking from hence to the great metropolis; the only thing that remains, is the usual ceremony of bidding adieu to his readers, and if they reap half the pleasure in perusing these hasty sketches of a country, hitherto undescribed in the same regular route, which they afforded the author in collecting them, his utmost ambition will be gratified.

A few Extracts may be subjoined from Mr. Maton's Observations on the Western Counties, 1797, 2 vols. 8vo.

A singular Mine.

WE were impatient to see the Wherry Mine, (mentioned before) situated in the bay, about half a mile beyond Penzance. The opening of this mine was an astonishingly

* See Queen Elizabeth's Progresses, vol. 2, 1591, p. 1. to p. 23.

† After sir Henry's death, there was a sale of the furniture, &c.

adventurous undertaking. I have never heard of one similar to it in any other part of the world. Imagine the descent into a mine through the sea; the miners working at the depth of seventeen fathoms only below the waves; the rod of a steam-engine extending from the shore to the shaft, a distance of nearly one hundred and twenty fathoms; and a great number of men momentarily menaced with an inundation of the sea, which continually drains, in no small quantity, through the roof of the mine, and roars loud enough to be distinctly heard in it! The descent is by means of a rope tied round the thighs, and you are let down in a manner exactly the same as a bucket is into a well;—a well, indeed, it is, for the water is more than knee-deep in many parts of the mine. The upper part of the shaft resembles an immense iron chimney, elevated about twelve feet above the level of the sea, and a narrow platform leads to it from the beach: close to this is the engine shaft, through which the water is brought up from below. Tin is the principal produce of the Wherry-mine; it is found dispersed (in small, indurated glass-like lumps, of a blackish colour) in a substance resembling the elvan of Polgooth, but much more compact in texture, and of the nature of a porphyry. Some of the tin is found mixed with pyritous copper, which is in a quartzose matrix. A black, hard killas forms the upper stratum of the mine, and below it appears the substance mentioned before. The inclination of the lode is towards the north, about six feet in a fathom, and its breadth is thought to be no less than ten fathoms. The ore is extremely rich.—*Maton's Observations*. I. 208.

A Silver Mine in Cornwall.

THE only silver-mine in this county is Huel-Mexico, situated to the left of the road leading from St. Agnes to St. Michael, and not far from the sea, the sand of which covers all the adjacent country. The rocks on the coast, quite from St. Ives, seem to consist chiefly of killas, which, with nodules of quartz, is the prevailing substance in the mine. *Luna Cornea*, or horn silver-ore, has been found here, though in very small quantities, and consequently specimens of it yield a high price.* A good deal of silver, however, has been procured from Huel-Mexico; some masses of the ore, we were informed, have produced as much as half their weight of it. The matrix is an ochraceous iron-ore, and the yellow oxyde covers the whole of the mine. I conceived at first that the silver might be afforded by a decomposed *galena*, but could not find any appearance of lead upon examination of the lode. The course of the latter is almost perpendicular to the horizon, in a direction from north to south. It is about ten years since the mine was first worked, and the depth is now nearly 24 fathoms. I found it very dangerous to descend, on account of the ladders continuing quite strait to the bottom, and there being no resting-place, except a niche cut on one side in the earth†. Should one unfortunately miss one's hold of the ladder in this shaft, there is nothing to prevent a fall to the very floor of the mine.—*Maton's Observations*. I. 252.

* It is of a yellowish-green colour, and is found in small specks, consisting of minute cubic crystals.

† Most of the ladder shafts in Cornwall have what are called landing-places, that is, the ladders do not often extend more than five or six fathoms in depth, before you can stand, or, perhaps, walk some way, and then proceed to another course.

SKETCH OF A TOUR INTO DERBYSHIRE AND YORKSHIRE,

INCLUDING PART OF

BUCKINGHAM, WARWICK, LEICESTER, NOTTINGHAM, BEDFORD, AND HERTFORDSHIRES.

By WILLIAM BRAY, F. A. S.

Preface to the first Edition.

THE traveller who sets out on a long journey with the expectation of meeting with the same accommodations on the road that he has at his own house, will soon find himself mistaken. If under the impressions of his disappointment, he takes up his pen to write his observations, he will complain that the wine was bad, the chicken tough, the bed hard; he will dwell on the barrenness of a heath, and in describing the poverty of a country, strip nakedness of its very fig-leaf. But a man of this temper has no right to trouble the public. If, indeed, in pointing out the defects, he pointed out the means of removing those defects, he might do a real service; but if he pretends to no more than to amuse, why weary the reader with his spleen? In a journey of this sort as in the journey of life, the fretful man communicates his own *tædium* to all about him, and prevents the enjoyment of such pleasures as lie in the way. To take the world as it is, to pass over the disagreeable parts as lightly as possible, and to make the most of every gleam of sunshine, is the way for a man to make the passage easy to himself and comfortable to those who are his companions.

The writer of the following sketch, for he does not presume to call it a complete account, wishes to communicate some part of the pleasure he received in the tour; and he thinks the traveller will find in it some information that will be useful, and that will enable him to make the most of his time, a circumstance about which the writer found himself much at a loss, for want of direction. If he succeeds in any degree, or if he shall be the means of exciting one more able, to give a more perfect account, he will not think the time spent, in digesting his notes, wholly misemployed.

November 1777.

Preface to the second Edition.

ALTHOUGH the reception which the first edition of this tour met with from the public was very flattering to the author, yet he cannot without much diffidence hazard a second edition, which has so much new matter (derived from a repetition of visits to the principal scene of description, and from subsequent information) that it may almost be considered as a new book. This diffidence is not a little increased from Mr. Penant having taken part of the same route; possessed as that gentleman is of an eye to observe, a pen to describe, and a pencil to delineate, every thing worthy observation in every place he comes to, the author of the present performance shrinks from the comparison (if indeed any comparison will ever be formed). He can only hope for a continuation of that candour, which he has already experienced.

February 1783.

HE who derives pleasure from contemplating the venerable remains of antiquity, or the elegant structures of the modern architect; who has a taste for the beauties of nature in her genuine simplicity, or as they are pointed out to view by the hand of art; he who feels his heart glow at the sight of the ingenious mechanic, whose labours diffuse plenty and cheerfulness around his habitation, circulate through every part of the globe, and are a truer source of national wealth than the mines of Potosi, will find ample matter of gratification by pursuing the route I am about to describe.

I propose to lead him to Buckingham, Banbury, Edge-hill, Warwick, Coventry, Leicester, Derby, Matlock, Buxton, Sheffield, Leeds, Ripon, and Askrig: and to return through the wilds of Yorkshire, called Craven, and by Mansfield, Nottingham, Northampton, Woburn, and St. Alban's.

Three miles beyond Uxbridge you leave the Wycomb road, and turning on the right go by the two Chalfonts, watered by a pleasant stream (which however deserts them in a very dry summer, as it did in 1781) between hills which rise on each hand, covered in many places with fine beech woods to Amersham. This was the estate of Ann Nevil, daughter of Ralph Nevil, Earl of Westmoreland, and wife of Humphrey Stafford, Duke of Buckingham, who was killed in the battle of Northampton, in the 38th H. VI. fighting for that king, and was held by her after his death, as Dugdale tells us in one place*; but in another, he makes it part of the great estate of Ann Beauchamp, sister and heiress of the duke of Warwick (afterwards wife of Nevil, the stout earl of that place) whose lands were seized by Edward IV. on her husband's defection, restored to her by Henry VII. and soon after conveyed by her to that king†. It was however in the hands of Henry VIII. who gave it to John Russell, created by him lord Russell, whose residence was at Cheneys, not far from hence†. In the last century, it became the estate of the Drakes; the present representative of that flourishing family has built an elegant seat a mile beyond the town, in the road to Aylesbury. His house stands on rising ground, which slopes gently to a bottom, in which a large piece of water was designed, but which has not entirely answered expectation. The ground about the house is adorned with beautiful groups of the most noble oak, ash, and beech, one of this gentleman's sons is presented by him to the living, which, from its value, and the goodness and situation of the parsonage-house, is no bad establishment for a younger son, even of a family as wealthy as this is. The parsonage-house stands very pleasantly on the side of the hill, above the town, looking to the south, well sheltered by woods. In 1778, the church was cleaned, and new pewed, and Mr. Drake brought a window of painted glass from an old house of his, called Lamer, in Herts, and put it up in the chancel. In the upper part of it are two small figures, a Lamb and a Dove; below them are three; Faith, with a cross, Hope leaning on an anchor, and Charity suckling a child. Beneath are the twelve Apostles, in two rows. There is not one monument or inscription in the body of the church; but in the chancel are some for the Drake family, and one for Henry Curwen, a youth, who died at school at this place son of sir — Curwen of Workington, in Cumberland. In a room over the family vault of the Drakes, is a monument for Mr. Montagu Drake, (the present gentleman's father) with a whole length figure of him recumbent, his widow sitting at his feet, by Scheemakers: opposite is a sarcophagus, of yellow or brown marble, with festoons of flowers in white marble on the borders, in memory of the late Mrs. Drake, of whom there is a small figure in white marble, kneeling, with six children behind

* Dugd Bar. vol. i. 166, 167. 306, 307.

† Warw. vol. i. 418, and Bar. vol. i.

‡ Leland Itin. vol. iv. p. 101.

her. Near this is a medallion, with a brass relief of Mr. Drake, jun. (said to be a strong likeness) in a Roman habit, leaning on an urn, which stands on a pillar, inscribed to the memory of his first wife, who died at the age of twenty. Underneath are these lines:

*Cara Maria vale! veniet felicius ævum,
Quando iterum tecum, sim modo dignus, ero.*

At Miffenden was an abbey founded by Thomas de Muffenden (as it was then written) in 1293*. It was one of the greater abbeys dissolved in 31 Henry VIII., John Stewell the abbot being allowed a pension of 30*l.* a year†. It is now the seat of Mr. Goostrey.

A few miles from hence, on the left of the road, is Whiteleaf Cross, cut out in the south west side of a high chalky hill, and visible, from the Oxfordshire side of the country, at a great distance. It is near 100 feet in length, and 50 in breadth, at the bottom, but decreasing upwards to about 20 at the top. The transverse line is about 70 feet in length, 12 in breadth, and the trench cut into the chalk is about two or three feet deep. This, like the White Horse in Berks, the Red Horse at Edge Hill, and the Giant on Trendle Hill, near Cerne Abbas, in Dorsetshire, is scoured out from time to time, but not at any regular periods. Mr. Wise attributes it to the time of Edward the Elder, supposes the Saxons to have had a fortification at Princes Risborough, which is just by; remains of which, he says, were visible when he wrote (in 1742,) and which the common people call the Black Prince's Palace, and thinks this cross was cut in memory of some victory gained here. The name of a village called Bledlow, a mile or two off, he says confirms the idea of a battle having been fought hereabouts, Bledelaw or Bledlow signifying the Bloody Hill; as Bledon-down, in Somersetshire, is so called from a bloody battle fought there with the Danes, in 845‡.

The way to it turns off at the end of Great Miffenden, and leads by Hampden, the almost deserted seat of the ancient family of that name, the chief of which distinguished himself so much by his opposition to the levying of ship money, and who was one of the first to take arms against Charles I. and one of the first who fell in the contention. A sister of that Mr. Hampden married sir John Trevor; and from them the present owner, lord viscount Hampden, is descended. The last of the name, and the twenty-fourth hereditary lord of this place, gave it, with a good estate here, to Mr. Trevor, on condition he changed his name. When the barony of Trevor descended to him, he got the title of Viscount Hampden, that the name might still be preserved, but he lives chiefly in Bedfordshire. The house stands on high ground, and is a pretty good one; the floors are unpleasant, being mostly oak, rubbed bright, or brick. There are several portraits, but the servants know nothing of the persons represented by them. A whole length of Oliver Cromwell on the stair-case is easily distinguished. In the church, which is just by, a monument is erected for the last Mr. Hampden, on which various intermarriages of the family are represented in shields of their arms, hung on a tree. A road through some fine beech woods comes out on a down, on the right of which is a tumulus, called Ellesborough Cop, from the name of the village below; the left hand road leads along the Iknild way (which is visible here, and retains the name for a considerable length, and is to be traced into Hants, or further) to the hamlet of

* Dugd. Mon. v. i. 542. but Camden, v. i. 310, says it was founded by the D'Oilys; augmented by the noble family surnamed De Miffenden.

† Harl. MS. 604. p. 94.

‡ Wise's further Observations on the Vale of White Horse, p. 34.

Whiteleaf, where is the cros. Just below are the two parishes of Monks Risborough, and Princes Risborough; the latter is a small town. The fortification which Mr. Wise mentions, seems to be the spot adjoining to the west end of the church yard. This was probably the manor house, which was moated round, but is now entirely destroyed; and it is likely was part of the estate of Edward the Black Prince, from which it took its name of Princes Risborough, to distinguish it from the next parish, (called Monks Risborough, from its belonging to the monks of Canterbury*.

The living is very small, and has been augmented by Queen Anne's bounty, and the benevolence of Mr. Penton, then lord of the manor, which has been since sold to Mr. Grubb, whose seat is below. The great tithes are considerable. The land here is mostly very good; the common field lets from 7s. 6d. to 25s. an acre.

Near the church of Ellesborough, on a round hill, is an ancient fortification, called Belinus's Castle, above which is an high hill, called Belinesbury Hill†. At Great and Little Kymbel are some remains of antiquity, and the name is supposed to be derived from that of the British king Cunobeline, whose two sons were killed in an action probably fought hereabouts‡.

Aylesbury, forty miles from London, is an indifferent town, in a rich fertile vale, to which it gives name, and which affords the finest pasture, and produces great quantities of beans and corn. It is the largest parish in the county, including in it Ellesborough, Bierton, Buckland, Stoke-Mandeville, and Quarendon, all which were only chapels of ease to it. This was one of the four British garrisons taken by the Saxons in 571, under Cuthwulf, in the expedition he made to Bedford§.

St. Ofith, the foundress of the religious house of that name, in Essex, was born at Quarendon, but was beheaded *anno* 600, by the Danes, in Essex, from whence her body was removed to the church of Aylesbury; it continued here 46 years, and then was carried back again. Whilst it remained here, however, many miracles were performed by it, and a religious house was built in memory of her, where the parsonage now stands||. I do not know whether this was the small house of Friars Minors mentioned by Dugdale, which in the survey, 26 H. 8. was valued at no more than 3l. 2s. 5d. *per annum*¶. Besides this, there was at the dissolution a house of Grey Friars, founded by the Butlers, afterwards earls of Ormond, temp. R. II. On the dissolution the conventual house was preserved, and given by Henry VIII. to sir John Baldwin, chief justice of the common pleas, who made it his seat, purchased the manor of the heir of the earls of Wilts and Ormond, to whom it had descended from the family of Fitzpiers, earl of Essex; built a town hall, and was a great benefactor to the place. It was afterwards the seat of the Packingtons, who married a daughter of sir John Baldwin, but ruined in the civil war, in the last century**. After the dissolution, there was dug up in this house an alabaster effigy of a man in armour, with these arms on his breast, a fesse between three leopards' faces, being the monument of sir Robert Lee, who died in the reign of Henry VII., and was ancestor of the earl of Lichfield. This was removed into the parish church, and now lies in the north cross aisle, but shamefully scratched and disfigured.

The manor of Aylesbury belonged to the Conqueror, who made the church, with Bierton, &c. prebendal to Lincoln. This great abuse, appropriations, was often censured, but by means of the monks and the pope, maintained its ground till the dissolution

* Camb. Brit. vol. i. 310.

† Ibid.

‡ Ibid.

§ Chron. Saxon. sub ann. 571.

|| Leland. Itin. v. iv. p. 107.

¶ Dugd. Mon. v. i. 1038.

** Willis's Not. Parl. v. i. p. 123, 124.

of the monasteries. Robert Grossthead*, made bishop of Lincoln in 1235, saw the mischiefs arising from it, and endeavoured to reform the evil. He took away this church from the deanry of Lincoln, to which it had been long annexed, and collated a residing rector to the full propriety of it. Richard de Gravesend, however, who came to see in 1270, made it again prebendal, as it still remains; but he had so much regard to the care of the parishioners' souls, as to ordain that the portion of the vicar should considerably exceed that of the prebendary, directing that the latter should have 30 marks, and the former, who should reside, 40, at the least, or 50 marks†. The inclosure of the common fields has raised the value of the vicarage from 60l. to 140l. a year.

Mr. Gladman, a former vicar, left his library to the church, and the parish fitted up a wainscot press for the books in the north cross aisle.

The grant of lands in this place by William I. shews what was the furniture of the royal bed-chamber in those days; the tenure was by finding litter or straw for the king's bed and chambers, whenever he should come that way, and providing him three eels in winter, and three green geese in summer, besides herbs for his chamber. But that this might not be too burthensome, it was not to be done oftener than three times in the year‡.

There is a handsome town-hall, where the sessions and spring assizes are held. In 1747, there was a great contest between this town and Buckingham, about the assizes; they had been usually held here, which is near the centre of the county, from the time of Henry VIII., when lord chief justice Baldwin, mentioned before, brought all public business hither; but about 1723, the summer assize was held at Buckingham, and continued so to be till 1747, when the judge removed it back to Aylesbury. The next year lord Cobham, and the Grenville family, who represented Buckingham in parliament, procured an act to fix the summer assize at Buckingham in future; not however, without violent opposition from sir William Stanhope, member for the county.

From Aylesbury go by Whitchurch, the tithes of which were part of the possessions of the abbey of Woburn; to the left of this is Oving, a seat of Mr. Hopkins, commanding a very delightful view of the vale, and greatly improved by him. A few miles further is the small town of Winslow; this place was given by King Offa, in 794, to the abbey of St. Albans§, and being made, with its members Granborough and Little Harwood, (heretofore chapelries to it) and some other places, of exempt jurisdiction, and appropriated to that abbey, became, on the dissolution, part of the diocese of London||. Mr. Lowndes has a seat here.

The village of Padbury stands on the side of a little hill, from the brow of which is seen a pleasant valley below, with a stone bridge over a small river, and at a distance, Stowe emerging from its woods.

Buckingham, though seated on a knoll, is surrounded by other hills, and is nearly encompassed by the Ouse, which takes a bend round the hill on which stood the castle, now entirely demolished. Edward the Elder built two castles here in 918, one on each side the Ouse¶; this was possibly the site of one of them; but there is no certain account when or by whom it was destroyed, though it is probable that it went to ruin on the attainder of the last duke of Buckingham, of the name of Stafford, in 1521. In

* The character of this excellent prelate is, that he was an awe to the pope, and a monitor to the king, a lover of truth, a corrector of prelates, a director of priests, an instructor of the clergy, a maintainer of scholars, a preacher to the people, a diligent searcher of truth, and most exemplary in his life. Willis's Cath. v. iii. p. 50.

† Kennett of Improvements, p. 39. 60.

‡ Camden, v. i. 311.

§ Camden, v. i. 312.

|| Willis's Cath. v. iii. p. 2.

¶ Willis's Buck. p. 49.

1574, Queen Elizabeth granted to Edward Grimston the castle farm, two castle mills, &c. late the possession of Edward duke of Buckingham.

The town is not large, but includes some considerable hamlets. It was of note enough in the time of Edward III. to have one of the staples for wool fixed here, when that great prince, with a discernment beyond the genius of the age in which he lived, by prohibiting the exportation of unmanufactured wool, laid the foundation of a trade which has since been carried to a most amazing extent*. The making of lace is now the employment of this as well as of many other parts of the country; but the resort to Stowe is what enlivens the place.

The manor and borough have been the successive property of the families of Giffard, Clare, Breose, Audley, and Stafford; were granted by Henry VIII. on attainder of the duke of Buckingham, to lord Marney, and on his death, without issue, to William Cary, esq. whose son, created baron of Hunsdon by Queen Elizabeth, sold to Brocas, whose son sold the manor, with the tolls of fairs and markets, to the corporation, who are now the owners†.

There was a church here early in the Saxon times, but it was dependent on King's Sutton in Northamptonshire, 14 miles off, and was supplied by a curate, put in by the vicar of that place, till about the year 1445, when a vicar was appointed, and an endowment made. His income has been since augmented by a donation of Dr. Perincheif, a prebendary of Westminster, who left a sum of money for that purpose in 1673, with which his trustees purchased 53 acres of land in this parish, and the tithe of them, formerly part of the prebend of Buckingham, and settled them on the vicar.

This King's Sutton, with Buckingham, and Horley, and Hornton, (two parishes in Oxfordshire) was made prebendal to Lincoln cathedral in the reign of William II ‡. and was the best endowed of any in the kingdom, except Masham in Yorkshire, being worth 1000l. per annum§, but was surrendered to Edward VI. and by him granted to his uncle Edward Seymour, duke of Somerset ||.

The church, or chapel, became famous by being made the burial place of St. Rumbold, son of some Saxon king, whose name is not mentioned. He was born at King's Sutton, 1st Nov. 626, but buried here. He was canonized, and a shrine was erected for him ¶. History is silent as to the particulars of his life, or what extraordinary acts of piety he performed to occasion this honor; indeed it could not have much to say on the subject, for it seems this venerable saint died two days after he was born. His canonization, however, answered some purposes, for it occasioned great resort of pilgrims to the place**.

Under this patronage the church became a large and handsome building, and had a lofty spire of 100 feet high placed on a tower of 63 feet high. The spire was blown down in 1693, and never rebuilt††; and in 1776 the steeple fell on the roof, and

* I had always understood that the exportation of goods manufactured from the raw materials of the country, was a clear gain of the improved price arising from the various branches of labour employed in that manufacture, and that it was true policy to keep those raw materials at home, to be worked up, instead of their being exported raw, and worked up by foreigners; but the ingenious Mr. Anderson (a gentleman who in many things deserves attention) thinks the prohibition of exporting wool has been detrimental to us. See his Essay on the Means of exciting a Spirit of National Industry.

† Willis's Buck. p. 26.

‡ Dugd. Mon. vol. iii. 259.

§ Camden, vol. i. 311.

|| Willis's Buck. 37.

¶ Ibid 23.

** He was a patron of fishermen, and his feast still observed at Folkstone, in Kent, in the month of December, says Camden's Continuator, vol. i. p. 311.

†† Willis's Buck. p. 61.

beat it entirely in, leaving only the side walls standing. A handsome and elegant new church has been built on the castle hill, to which the late and present earl Temple have contributed most liberally, paying all the expence above 2000l.; the whole is calculated at 7000l. It is built of white stone, got in the neighbourhood; that used in the spire was brought from Brill-hill. It stands north and south, (probably to form a better object from Stowe gardens) the entrance being at the north end next the town; at the south end is the belfry, with a spire on it, the whole height 158 feet. Over the north window are the earl's arms carved in stone, with his motto most appositely placed, *Templa quam dilecta!* Over the belfry door are the arms of the town. The church is spacious, having three aisles and a gallery on each side, Ionic pillars supporting the roof, which over the middle aisle is coved; over the galleries is vaulted, with roles on the points of the arches. Between the two doors at the north end is the communion table, where is an altar piece given by lord Temple, which he brought from Rome, and is said to have cost him 400l. It represents two parts of our Saviour's history; in the foreground he is casting out a devil, in the back ground is his transfiguration. On getting the summer assizes fixed here, lord Cobham, in 1748, erected a gaol in the middle of one of the streets (which is there of considerable width) and commemorated the fixing of the assizes by an inscription over the door. It is an oblong square, battled and turretted at each corner, and built with stones taken from the remnants of the castle. A fire in 1725 burnt down great part of the town; but advantage was not taken of that misfortune to rebuild the streets in a handsome manner.

A chapel belonging to a school, founded to teach some boys Latin, has an arched door with zig-zag ornaments. The conscientious master takes the salary of 10l. a-year, but refuses to teach any scholars. Had a former master been of this disposition, Hill, the learned taylor, would not have had the opportunity of acquiring the knowledge of Latin. When an apprentice here, his desire of learning was so great, and the means of accomplishing his purpose so unequal, that it was by an expedient which few would have thought of, and fewer would have carried into execution, that he got the first rudiments of that tongue. He had in his possession a Latin grammar, but it was of no use without an interpretation; to obtain this, he went on errands for the school-boys, on condition they would English one of the rules for him. From hence he went on, and made himself master of Greek and Hebrew*.

From the end of the town the late earl Temple made a new road to his so much celebrated seat at Stowe. It runs in a straight line about two miles up to the Corinthian arch, on coming to which you turn on the right to an inn, where the horses may be left, or to which they may be sent back from the garden gate.

Stowe was formerly part of the possessions of the abbey of Osney, and belonged to the bishop of that place when Henry VIII., on the dissolution, erected the abbey into a bishoprick; but that capricious monarch, soon changing his mind, removed the foundation to Christ Church. Stowe followed the fortune of the abbey, till Queen Elizabeth, having taken the estates into her hands, on a vacancy of the see of Oxford, granted this manor and estate, in 1590, to John Temple, esq† (ancestor of the present earl) a gentleman of a very ancient family, seated at Temple-hall, in Lei-

* Spence's Parallel between him and Magliabecchi.

† Willis's Buckingham.

cestershire*. A park of about 200 acres was inclosed by his descendant sir Peter Temple; whose son, sir Richard, after the restoration, rebuilt the manor-house, and settled 50l. a-year on the vicarage, which in the hands of the abbots had been very poorly endowed. Those lazy and luxurious dignitaries paying no more attention to the due performance of divine service, than lay impropiators in general do now.

This gentleman's son was created baron and viscount Cobham by George I. and dying without issue, left his estate to his second sister, Hester, wife of Richard Grenville, of Wotton, in this county, mother of the late earl Temple. He died in 1779, and was succeeded in title and estate by his nephew, son of his brother George.

To lord Cobham these gardens owe their beauty. He laid out the lawns, he planted the groves, he erected the buildings. The internal beauties are such, for extent and variety, that the elegant and picturesque scenes they contain, make amends for the want of those distant prospects which are the ornaments of some situations.

These grounds were laid out when regularity was in fashion, and the original boundary is still preserved on account of its magnificence; for round the whole circuit of between five and six miles, is carried a broad gravel walk, planted with rows of trees, and open either to the park or the country. A deep sunk fence goes all the way, and includes about four hundred acres. In the interior scenes of the garden few traces of regularity appear; where it yet remains in the plantations in any degree, it is at least disguised, and a bason, which was an octagon, is converted into an irregular piece of water, falling down a cascade into a lake below.

In the front of the house, which stands on the brow of a gentle rise, is a considerable lawn, open to the water, beyond which are two elegant Doric pavilions, placed in the boundary of the garden, but not marking it as such, though they correspond to each other; for still further back, on a rising ground without the inclosure, stands the Corinthian arch, which is seen in the approach.

I shall not attempt to describe all the buildings, which are very numerous, but shall mention some of the principal scenes.

On entering the garden, you are conducted to the left by the two Doric pavilions, from whence the magnificent front of the house is full in view. You pass by the side of the lake (which, with the bason, flows about ten acres) to a temple dedicated to Venus, looking full on the water; and over a lawn, up to the temple of Bacchus, to which you are led by a winding walk. This last building stands under cover of a wood of large trees. The lawn, which is extensive, is bounded by wood on each side, and slopes down to the water, on the opposite side of which is the very elegant temple of Venus, just mentioned, thrown into perspective, by being inclined a little from a front view. Over the tops of the surrounding wood is a view of the distant country, terminated by Brill-hill, near Oxford†; and Quainton-hill, near Aylesbury.

* Of this family was the famous dame Hester Temple, daughter of Mr. Sandys, of Latimer in Bucks; who, according to Fuller, lived to see more than 700 of her own descendants.

† Camden, v. i. p. 310, says, the Brill is a small country town (so called by contraction from Bury-hill) some time a royal villa of Edward the Confessor. His continuator derives the name from Bruel, a thorny place, and Bruer, a thorn; but the former is perhaps the most probable, if we consider that Brill is the name for the place where Cæsar had his camp at Pancras.

From hence you cross the lawn by the front of the house, which is nearly in the centre of the gardens, dividing them as it were into two parts. In the latter division, the tower of the parish church, bosomed in trees, the body of it wholly concealed from view, is one of the first things which strikes the eye, and you are uncertain whether it is more than one of the ornamental buildings. Passing by it you enter the Elysian Fields, under a Doric arch, through which are seen, in perspective, a bridge, and a lodge in the form of a castle. The temple of Friendship is in sight; and within this spot are those of Ancient Virtue and of the British Worthies, adorned with busts of various eminent men, and inscriptions, mentioning their particular merits. Here is also a rostral column to the memory of captain Grenville, brother of the late earl, who was killed in that successful engagement with the French fleet in 1747, when Mr. Anson took the whole of the convoy*. In the bottom runs a stream, which, with the variety and disposition of the trees dispersed over gentle inequalities of ground, makes this a very lively and beautiful scene.

Close to this is the Alder-grove, a deep recess in the thickest shade. The water, though really clear, is rendered of a dark blue colour by the over-hanging trees: the alders are of an uncommon size, white with age; and here are likewise some large and noble elms. At the end is a grotto, faced with flints and pebbles, in which the late earl sometimes supped. On such occasions this grove was illuminated with a great number of lamps, and his lordship, with a benevolence which did him honour, permitted the neighbourhood to share the pleasure of the evening with him and his company, the park gates being thrown open.

The temple of Concord and Victory is a most noble building. In the front are six Ionic columns supporting a pediment filled with bas-relief, the points of which are crowned with statues. On each side is a beautiful colonade of ten lofty pillars. The inside is adorned with medallions of those officers who did so much honour to their country, and under the auspices of his lordship's immortal relation, Mr. Pitt, carried its glory to so high a pitch in the war of 1755; a war most eminently distinguished by Concord and Victory. This temple stands on a gentle rise, and below it is a winding valley, the sides of which are adorned with groves and clumps of trees, and the open space is broken by single trees, of various forms. Some statues are interspersed. This valley was once flowed with water, but the springs not supplying a sufficient quantity, have been diverted, and it is now grass.

It has been observed that there is a particular moment when this temple appears in singular beauty: when the setting sun shines on the long colonade which faces the west, all the lower parts of the building are darkened by the neighbouring wood; the pillars

* The character of this gallant officer was most amiable; he was of true courage and conduct; a humane and generous commander; beloved by his officers; esteemed as a father by his sailors. His loss was lamented in some elegant English lines by Mr. (afterwards lord) Lyttleton; and by a Latin inscription on this column by lord Cobham. In the latter, the following lines,

*Perire, dixit moribundus, omnino satius esse
Quam inertiae reum in judicio fisci;*

relate to a known story, that the commander in chief threw out the signal for the line, and that the French fleet would have escaped, if sir Peter Warren, seeing the danger of losing the opportunity, had not, though second in command, made signals for a chase, refusing to take them down; he was well supported in this by captain (afterwards sir Peter) Denis; captain Grenville; captain (afterwards admiral) Boscawen, and others. The commander finding Warren resolute, had magnanimity enough to alter his signal from that for the line, to a chase; and prudence enough to make no complaint of disobedience.

rise at different heights out of the obscurity: some are nearly overspread with it, some are chequered with a variety of tints, and others are illuminated down to their bases. The light is softened off by the rotundity of the columns, but it spreads in broad gleams on the wall within them, and pours full, and without interruption, on the entablature, distinctly marking every dentil. On the statues which adorn the points of the pediment, a deep shade is contrasted to splendor: the rays of the sun linger on the sides of the temple long after the front is overcast with the sober hue of evening, and they tip the upper branches of the trees, or glow in the openings between them, while the shadows lengthen across the valley.

On the opposite side of this vale is the Lady's Temple, on an elevated spot, commanding the distant views. Below is a stream, over which is thrown a plain wooden bridge. On another eminence, divided from this by a great dip, stands a large Gothic building, fitted up in that taste, and furnished with some very good painted glass.

The temple of Friendship is adorned with elegant marble busts of some whose friendship did real honour to the noble owner.

The scenes which have been mentioned are the most remarkable, but though beautiful, it must be confessed are inferior to the exquisite one which presents itself from the Gothic building at Pain's-hill, in Surrey; or to several which are found at Mr. Southcote's, in that neighbourhood. In point of buildings, Stowe is unrivalled. The number of them has been objected to; but the growth of the wood, by concealing one from another, every day weakens the objection. Each may be said to belong to a distinct scene; and the magnificence and splendor of them, joined to the elegance of their construction, and blended with the variety and disposition of the ground, will always ensure the admiration and pleasure of the spectator*.

Leaving Stowe, some starved firs and pines, on each side the road, shew how much planters should attend to the manner of executing their work, and the choice of the kind of trees proper for the soil in which they are to be planted.

Pass by Finmore, and another village, and come to Aynho, where is the seat of Mr. Cartwright. Here was an hospital built for the entertainment of poor and sick passengers in the time of Henry II. by the Claverings (then called Roger Fitz Richard, and Roger Fitz Roger) who were lords of the manor. It was well endowed, and in 1484 was given by William earl of Arundell (then owner of the manor) to Magdalene-college, Oxford, to which it still belongs; but is now let out as a private house†. Ralph Nevill, of Raby, who died in the beginning of Edward III. married the daughter of John de Claving, and seems to have had this estate with her, as he obtained a charter for a market and a fair at this place, but it was limited over to John de Claving, in fee. Yet his son Ralph died seised of the manor in 41 Edward III‡.

At the entrance of Aynho you cross the Portway, one of the *viæ vicinales* leading from station to station; it comes out of the Akeman-street, at Kirtlington, in Oxfordshire, and is supposed by Dr. Plot to go to Vennonis, or Cleycester, but by Morton, to lead to Bennaventa, or Wedon, near which place is a gate called Portway-gate§. Banbury, however, (Branavis) seems to be in its line of direction.

* The reader will not be displeased if he should find that in this account of Stowe, I have made considerable use of a description given of it by one who was intimately acquainted with its beauties, the late Mr. Whateley.

† Bridge's Northamptonshire, v. i. p. 141.

‡ Dugd. Bar. v. i. p. 292, 295.

§ Morton's Nat. Hist. of Northamptonshire, p. 502.

At this end of the village, turning on the right hand, is the road to Astrop Wells, which are about two miles off, a little beyond the village of King's Sutton (mentioned before) in which parish they are. The church has a fine spire, rising from a tower, the corners of which have been ornamented with pinnacles, but some of them are broken off. The well is in a bottom, and is chalybeate, possessing great virtues in the stone, gravel, dropfy, and the beginning of a consumption; and the place has been formerly much frequented, but is now out of fashion. The lodging-houses are miserable. Near the spring an assembly-room was built by subscription some years ago, and is still used for that purpose in the summer by the neighbouring gentry. Dr. Short says, nature and art have combined to make this place a paradise of pleasure—I doubt it will require a warm imagination to discover in it any resemblance of what we suppose Paradise to be.

Come into the turnpike road from Oxford to Banbury, at Adderbury, where is a seat of the duke of Buccleugh, in a bad country, and surrounded by execrable roads. It once belonged to the earl of Rochester, so remarkable for the profligacy of the former part of his life, and for his sincere contrition at his death. Here are quarries of stone very full of cockles.

Banbury, the *Branavis* of the Romans, whose coins have been often found here, had a castle built by Alexander, bishop of Lincoln, in 1125; a fragment of one of its walls supporting a cottage, used as a pest-house, is all that is left of it. Part of the ditch is now the high road. A Roman altar was found here, and placed in a niche under the sign of an inn, called from thence the Altar-stone inn*. Some years ago it was converted into a private house, and the altar was probably demolished. The church was (with more propriety) built by the same bishop, who is supposed to have been buried in the chancel, under a tomb on which is a mutilated figure, recumbent. The remnants of two other figures in the chancel, said to be those of judge Chamberlain and his wife, shew the folly of fanaticism in the last century. The puritans were always numerous here; Ben Jonson makes one of those characters, Zeal-of-the-land Bussy, a Banbury man; and it is mentioned in other dramatic pieces, as their resort. Camden speaks of it as famous for cakes and ale; and when Holland translated his *Britannia* without his consent, played him a trick; getting at the printer, he changed cakes and ale, into cakes and zeal, which alteration got Holland many enemies†. Round the wall on the outside of the church are a number of carved heads of men and animals. The building being in great decay, was repaired in 1686, at the expence of 500*l.* by Dr. Fell, the munificent dean of Christ-church, and bishop of Oxford‡.

The castle was built, as before observed, by Alexander, bishop of Lincoln, soon after his consecration, which was in 1123; and it continued to be one of the residences of the bishops (occasionally, for they had ten houses furnished in the diocese, besides one at Newark, and one at London) till bishop Holbech, on his appointment, 1 Edward VI. conveyed this and about thirty manors, to the king and his courtiers. By the account of the endowment of this bishoprick, taken 26th Henry VIII. 1534, the estate here was valued as follows:

	<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
Banbury burgh - - - - -	14	13	10
Banbury ballw. and hundred - - -	4	4	4
Banbury præposit Castri - - -	52	14	8

* Stukeley's *Itin. cur.*

† Willis's *Cath.* v. iii. p. 425.

‡ Gough's *Topog.* v. i. p. 29, 57.

The impropriation of the rectory and advowson of the vicarage of Banbury, belonged to a prebend in Lincoln cathedral, called the prebend of Banbury; but in 1548 it was surrendered to sir John Thynne, and dissolved. The estate was then reckoned of the clear yearly value of 46l. 6s. 8d. and was afterwards given by Queen Elizabeth to the bishoprick of Oxford, in exchange for other lands, being then valued at 49l. 18s. 9d. a year*.

After Edward IV. had obtained possession of the throne, an insurrection, which began in Yorkshire amongst the friends of the earl of Warwick (who was then in France, in great disgust at Edward's marriage) had very nearly destroyed him. The leaders of it marched towards London, and were met near Banbury by the earl of Pembroke and Lord Stafford. The latter entered the town first, and took possession of an inn, which the earl chose to have for himself, and ordered Stafford to quit; Stafford was so smitten with the charms of a pretty bar-maid whom he found here, that though forced to obey, he did it very unwillingly, and retired out of the town with his men in great discontent. Their enemies soon heard of the quarrel, and fell on Pembroke's troops early in the morning. Henry Nevill, one of their leaders, was taken and killed in cold blood, which so enraged the rest, that they fought with irresistible fury, and taking the earl and his brothers prisoners, they revenged Nevill's death by instantly beheading them here†.

This place was made a borough by Queen Mary, in return for their adherence to her against Lady Jane Grey, and from that time they have sent one member to parliament‡.

After the battle of Edge-hill, the parliament had a garrison of 800 foot and a troop of horse in the castle, which was surrendered to the king in a few days after, and remained in his hands till he gave it up, with other garrisons, to the Scotch general§.

The navigable canal intended to be carried from Coventry to Oxford, is brought to this town, but is now at a stand for want of money. About five miles from hence, in the road to Southam, the canal is conveyed through a hill, by a tunnel three quarters of a mile in length, with a towing path on the side for horses; it is an exact circle, worked up with brick. There is a sulphur well here in the grounds of the Ram inn, and a chalybeate, called Bloxham new well, about a furlong from the town, on the west side, almost close to the brook||.

Pass by Wroxton Priory, now a seat of the earl of Guildford. It was founded by Michael Belet, an ecclesiastic in the reign of King John, for canons of the order of St. Augustin, valued in the survey, 26th of Henry VIII. at 78l. 13s. 4½d¶. It was the estate of sir Thomas Pope, founder of Trinity College, Oxford, and by him given to that foundation; of them it is held by the earl of Guildford, and is used by him as a residence, but whether there are any remains of the religious house, I do not know. A little further is Upton, a hunting seat of Mr. Child, the banker; and just beyond is the inn at Edgehill. This hill is properly so named, as, after passing a level country, you come at once to the edge of a steep hill, forming a natural terrace, some miles in length. At the foot of this lies the vale of Red Horse, so called from the colour of the earth, which is red, and from a rude figure of a horse cut in the turf, on the side of the hill, and kept scoured out. The origin of this is uncertain. It is smaller than the White Horse, in Berks, not so well shaped, nor so conspicuous. The scouring is usually performed on Palm Sunday, the day on which the great earl of Warwick

* Willis's Cath. vol. iii. 3. p. 35, 140, 141, 417.

† Rapin, vol. i. p. 606.

‡ Willis's Notitia, vol. iii. p. 41.

§ Rapin, vol. ii p. 462.

|| Short, vol. ii. p. 49.

¶ Dugdale Mon. v. i. p. 1043, and vol. ii. p. 326.

fought the bloody battle of Towton, in Yorkshire, in 1461, when he killed his horse before the engagement determined to conquer or die. Mr. Wise conjectures it may have reference to that circumstance. Some lands are held by the tenure of scouring it.

On the right hand of the inn, the hill extends about two miles; and at the farther end where it dips, King Charles I. went down from Edgcot, and met the parliament forces, under the earl of Essex, which lay the night before at Keynton, a town in the vale. Here was fought the first battle, when Cromwell is said to have behaved in a manner far short of that courage which he afterwards exhibited; and when Prince Rupert, the king's nephew, prevented, by his inconsiderate pursuit, the gaining a complete victory. A pit, in which five hundred victims of that day were buried, is marked by a few small firs. Skulls, and remnants of weapons, have been often found.

Near this end of the hill, Mr. Miller (whose house, called Radway, is below) has built a tower and ruins, to imitate those of a decayed castle. The walk to this, along the edge of the hill, commands an extensive prospect, but which becomes still more extensive from the room at the top of the tower, to which you ascend by about sixty steps. The windows are ornamented with painted glass, brought from different places; amongst which are the arms of England, of the Isle of Man, and of the Stanley's, and some Scripture pieces. The ceiling is painted with the arms of the Saxon Kings, and of several gentlemen in the neighbourhood. From this room are seen Warwick castle, Coventry spires, the Wrekin in Shropshire, and many other distant objects.

Nearer to Warmington, is a camp of about 12 acres, of a square form, but rounded at the corners, which Mr. Salmon, in his new survey*, contends to be the Roman station Tripontium, mentioned in the 6th iter of Antoninus. To make it agree with that, he supposes Alcester to be Isanavatia, and Warwick, Bennones. He seems to assign good reasons for removing it from Towcester, where Camden supposed it.

On the other side the inn, at the distance of about four miles, lies Compton Wynyate, an old seat of the earl of Northampton, in whose family it has been from at least the time of King John. The ride to it is on the side of the hill, for about two miles, and then into the rich, but dirty vale below. It is in a bottom, surrounded with hills, and is an irregular house, built by sir William Compton, in the beginning of the reign of Henry VIII. with bricks brought from a ruinous old castle at Fulbroke. The chimneys are formed in spires and zig-zags. Over the gateway, in the entrance, are the arms of France and England under a crown, with the griffin and greyhound for supporters, and on each side a rose under a crown; probably placed here on account of a visit made by the king, which is further remembered by the arms of England empaling those of Arragon, found in some of the windows, (in which also are the Compton arms and crest) and by a gilt bedstead full of carving, said to have been used by the king when here. In the late general wreck, when this, with other of the earl's houses, was stripped, and every thing sold by auction, this bedstead was bought by a farmer's wife for six guineas. Unhappy effect of a rage for parliamentary influence and for gaming! Almost equally destructive to the fortunes of the greatest families, the former is attended with the worst consequences to society. A continued debauchery, introduces a habit of idleness, rarely got rid of; a disregard and contempt of the most sacred oaths, and a profligacy of manners, which fit the unhappy wretches for the commission of every crime. Yet are these encouraged, without hesitation, by our nobility and men of fortune, often, as in the present instance, to their own ruin.

Strange infatuation! that a man of education and reflection, who would start at the commission of most crimes, or even at the supposition of his being capable of them, should, for the sake of a vote, sit on the bench an unconcerned spectator of the illiterate wretch below, at his instance, calling solemnly on the Almighty to attest the truth of what they both know to be a wilful and deliberate falsehood!

When this house was built, it is plain that the owner could not have a single idea of the beauty arising from a situation commanding either distant, or home views; indeed our ancestors appear to have scarce ever thought of them. But it stood in the middle of a noble estate, and was sufficient for the purposes of a hospitality which did more real honour to the possessor, than the most elegant modern seat, where that is wanting.

This house was held for Charles I., and was besieged by Cromwell, the marks of whose bullets still appear in the gates, and was at last taken. The church (which has been rebuilt) was entirely ruined during the siege, and the family monuments destroyed.

Much has been written for and against the utility of great farms; but the argument against them, drawn from the consequent depopulation of the country, seems strongly enforced by an instance in this neighbourhood. At Chadfunt was a mansion-house, the seat of Mr. Newsam*, and ten farm-houses on so many farms, let all together at about 800*l.* a year. Not long since this estate was sold to lord Catherlough; the ten farm-houses are pulled down, and all the lands and the mansion-house are let at 1000*l.* a year to one farmer, who manages the business, as a grazier, with the help of two or three servants.

This was told me by my intelligent landlord at the inn, who mentioned the following rise of provisions in his memory; veal from 1*d.*¹/₄ to 4*d.* a pound; two fowls from 10*d.* to 2*s.* pigeons from 10*d.* and 14*d.* a dozen to 3*s.* butter from 3*d.* and 4*d.* a pound to 7*d.* and 9*d.* and cheese from 17*s.* a hundred to 24*s.* The monopoly of farms, however, is not the only cause to which the rise of provisions may be assigned.

This lord Catherlough was son of the famous Mr. Knight, the cashier and plunderer of the South-Sea company in the year of their calamity: his lordship built a tower in his grounds at Wotton, near Henley, in this county, and directed that his body should be buried there, and that those of his family who were buried in a vault, should be taken up and deposited in the same place, which was done.

Mr. Ladbroke has a seat at Idlecot, bought by the late sir Robert, of the heirs of baron Legge.

In this neighbourhood is dug a blue stone, which becomes very hard, and is used for barn floors, ovens, &c.

Leaving Edge-hill, go through Pillerton and Edington, and turning on the right, through Wellesburn and Barford, to Warwick. It is something round to go by Edge-hill from Banbury to Warwick, but the road by Keynton is so bad, that it would be worth the additionable trouble, even if the prospect from Edge-hill was out of the question. From Edge-hill to Edington the road is tolerable; from thence to Wellesburn, very good and from thence to Warwick, excellent.

* A family deriving their origin from Temple Newsam, in Yorkshire, but seated here from about the time of Henry VIII.

Warwick was a Roman station, called *Præsidium*, or, according to Salmon, *Benno-nes**, and is situate on the banks of the Avon, and is a handsome, well-built town, risen with additional beauty from the ruins of a great fire, which, in 1694, burnt great part of the town, and destroyed the church as far as the choir. A collection of 11,000*l.* was made by a brief, and Queen Anne added 1000*l.*; with this they rebuilt the body of the church and the steeple in a very handsome manner, the tower alone costing 1600*l.* This tower is 117 feet to the battlements, and 25 feet more to the top of the pinnacles. Near the battlements the arms of the different earls of Warwick are cut in stone. It was finished in 1704, as appears by an inscription on the tower.

This church was founded before the Conquest, and was made collegiate by Roger de Neuburgh, earl of Warwick, in 1123, 23 Henry I. Sir William Beauchamp, lord Bergavenny, finished the stately choir begun by his father, rebuilt the whole body of the church, and was otherwise a munificent benefactor to it. In this choir was at that time a statue of the famous Guy; but in 19 Richard II. 1395, one Sutton, a carver, altered it, and cut on it the arms of the ancient earls of Warwick. Our lady's chapel was begun by the executors of Richard Beauchamp, earl of Warwick, in 21 Henry VI., and perfected, 3 Edward IV. This building, together with the magnificent tomb for that earl (inferior to none in England, except that of Henry VII. in Westminster Abbey) cost 2481*l.* 4*s.* 7*d.*½, a prodigious sum, if reckoned by the value of money in these days. Some guess as to the largeness of it may be made from the comparative price of an ox, and a quarter of bread corn, the former being then 13*s.* 4*d.* the latter 3*s.* 4*d.*†. This chapel fortunately escaped the fire, and in it are the monuments of Ambrose Dudley, earl of Warwick; Robert Dudley, earl of Leicester, and of Robert, his son.

This collegiate church was dissolved 37 Henry VIII., and it was the same year granted to the inhabitants of the town. The castle, the ancient residence of the earls of this name, stands on a rock, rising from the edge of the river Avon, which falls in a cascade under the window of the great hall. On the other side the river is the park, but the ground being mostly flat, and lying below the castle, it does not appear to advantage; the trees seem diminutive. By whom this pile was built, is doubtful; but the tower, called Guy's tower, was the work of Thomas Beauchamp, earl of Warwick, in the reign of Richard II. at the cost of 395*l.* 5*s.* 2*d.* The walls are ten feet thick.

From the Beauchamps, this estate passed by an heiress in the reign of Henry VI. to Richard Nevill (son and heir of Richard Nevill, earl of Salisbury,) on whom that king conferred the title of earl of Warwick. This is the person who is called the stout earl of Warwick, and who had so great a share in the confusions of those unhappy times, sometimes taking part with the house of York, sometimes with that of Lancaster, and generally carrying success to the party whose cause he espoused.

The entrance into the castle is under a gateway, between Guy's Tower on the right, which is 12 angled, and Cæsar's on the left, which is of three circular segments, and this leads into the great court. In this court is a flight of steps up to a magnificent hall, 62 feet by 37, wainscoted with the original oak, but which was necessarily painted, as on fitting up the room it was rendered of different colors by being planed. On the left of this are the private apartments; on the right is a suite of rooms, all looking over the river into the park, consisting of a music-room; a noble drawing-room, wainscoted with cedar; a room lately used for billiards, now fitted up as a drawing-room; a state

* V. ii. p. 497.

† Dugd. Warw. v. i. p. 445.

bed-chamber and a dressing-room. This last is at the end of the castle, and looks into the garden; in it are several small portraits, amongst which are those of Anna Bullen, and her sister; and of sir Thomas More, by Holbein; prince Rupert, and prince Maurice his brother, in armour, three quarters length, in one piece; Francis, earl of Bedford, the first duke of Bedford, and some others. In the drawing-room are portraits of prince Maurice, Richard earl of Warwick, whole lengths; and others, by Vandyck, &c. And over the chimney is that of Mr. Wortley Montague, in his Turkish habit, by Romney. The original of sir Philip Sydney is in the private apartments. Behind these rooms is a passage which leads to a neat chapel, in which is some good painted glass. Out of the hall is a dining-room, 42 feet by 25, and 18 high, built by the present lord in a space between the end of the chapel, and the flight of steps from the great court. At the upper end of this room is a whole length portrait of Frederick, late Prince of Wales; and at the lower end one of his princess, with the princess Augusta in her arms; and over the chimney a whole length of sir Fulk Greville, lord Brooke.

In the porter's lodge they shew several things which are said to have belonged to the famous Guy, earl of Warwick; such as his porridge-pot, his flesh-fork, his iron shield, breast-plate, and sword; his horse's head-piece, his walking-staff, (which is nine feet high, and which they tell you was only two inches higher than himself) a rib of the dun cow, which he killed on Dunsmore-heath in this neighbourhood, and some other things. Whether they ever belonged to Guy or not, some of them are of considerable antiquity, and the sword was reputed to have been his so long ago as the year 1400, when Thomas Beauchamp, earl of Warwick, by his will, gave to his son, and his heirs after him, the sword and coat of mail sometime belonging to the famous Guy*; and in 1 Henry VIII., that king granted the custody of his sword to one Hoggeson, yeoman of his buttery, with a fee of 11d. *per diem* for that service†, which was continued in Queen Elizabeth's time‡.

James I. granted this castle to sir Fulke Greville, ancestor of the present earl of Warwick, who laid out 20,000l. in repairing and embellishing it. The epitaph on his tomb is no more than this; "Fulke Greville, servant to Queen Elizabeth, counsellor to King James, and friend to sir Philip Sydney."

Near the castle, towards the north east, was a place fenced with strong stone walls, called the Vineyard; in 3 Henry IV. by the bailiff's accounts, wages were given to some women for gathering grapes there during the space of five days§. Whether this fruit was what we now understand by the name of grapes, has been a subject of much debate.

The Priory here was begun by Henry de Neuburgh, first earl of Warwick, after the Conquest, and finished by earl Roger, his son. On the survey 26 Henry VIII., it was valued at no more than 10l. 10s. 2d. above reprises, and was dissolved the next year. In 38 of that king it was granted to Thomas Hawkins, alias Fisher, who pulled down the old building to the ground, and built a very fair house, which he called Hawk's-nest. His son sold it to sir John Puckering, since which it has passed to the family of Wise||, and has regained its old name of the Priory. Stukeley says, that two galleries, part of the original building, remain.

About a mile and half beyond Warwick, in the road to Coventry, is a house of the late Mr. Greethead, built on the edge of a high, perpendicular rock, at the foot of

* Dugd. War. v. i. p. 403.

§ Dugd. Warw. v. i. p. 428.

† Ibid p. 428.

‡ Peck's Desiderata Curiosa, b. ii. p. 18.

|| Dugd. Warw. v. i. p. 454.

which

which flows the Avon, in a bend round a meadow. This place is called Guy's Cliff, from a tradition that he spent the latter part of his life in retirement here, in a cave scooped out of the rock, which is shewn. It was anciently the residence of some hermits, who had a small chapel; a chauntry was afterwards founded by one of the earls of Warwick, and well endowed. It deserves the notice of antiquarians, if for no other reason, for having been the abode of the celebrated antiquary, John Rous, who was one of the chauntry priests, and here wrote his *Chronicon de Regibus*.

Proceed to Kenilworth, a long, scattering town, where the august ruins of the castle, afford the most striking instance of the instability of human affairs! This place, the abode of barons, little less powerful than kings; which so long resisted all the strength of Henry III., and which was at last subdued rather by sickness and famine, than by the superior force of the royal army; which still retained its importance, and in the hands of Elizabeth's favourite, Leicester, exceeded most of the royal habitations in magnificence; and which, from the thickness and structure of the walls, seemed to bid defiance to time itself, is now only a picturesque heap of ruins. Of the apartments, once graced with the presence of that queen, and of her court, with all the splendour which the princely owner could exhibit to entertain such a company, nothing but fragments of the bare walls remain! The Lake, which flowed more than 100 acres, is vanished! The only habitable part is a part of the gateway, filled with the family of a dirty, slovenly farmer, in one of whose chambers is an alabaster chimney-piece, with the letters R. L. carved thereon; once the ornament of a far different apartment.

There was a castle here before the Conquest, which was demolished in the time of Canute, but another was built by Geoffry de Clinton, chamberlain and treasurer to Henry I., this soon came into the hands of the crown. Henry III., granted it to Simon de Mountfort, earl of Leicester, who held it against the king in the great insurrection of the barons; and, after he was killed in the battle of Evesham, it was so gallantly defended by Henry de Hastings, whom he had appointed governor, that the king could not get possession, till sickness and want of provisions compelled the garrison to surrender. The king then gave it to his son Edmund, earl of Leicester and Lancaster.

In the time of Edward I. was held here an assembly of 100 knights, and as many ladies, headed by Roger Mortimer. The knights entertained the ladies in the morning with tilting and martial tournaments, and in the evening with dancing. It is mentioned as extraordinary, that on this occasion the ladies were clad in filken mantles. They called themselves of the Round Table, to avoid contention about precedence.

In this place the unhappy Edward II. was kept prisoner, and here made the resignation of his crown (if it may be called a resignation) to his son, Edward III.

By a daughter and heiress of the Lancaster family, it passed to John of Gaunt, fourth son of Edward III. created duke of Lancaster, who, about the end of the reign of Richard II., began the ancient buildings now remaining, except Cæsar's Tower. Henry, his son, becoming king, it continued in the crown, till Queen Elizabeth granted it to Robert, lord Dudley, earl of Leicester. Charmed with the situation, he laid out 60,000l. on the buildings, and in enlarging the park; an amazing sum in those days! He gave a most splendid entertainment here to the queen and her court, at which were introduced every amusement of the times; amongst them bear-baiting was not forgot*. A regatta was exhibited on the lake.

* Dugd. Warw. v. i. p. 236, and seq.

The story of this earl's concealed marriage, and of the consequent misfortunes of his noble and accomplished son, sir Robert Dudley, are well known.

After that most iniquitous court, the Star Chamber, had stifled the proceedings which sir Robert had instituted to prove his mother's marriage, and his own legitimacy, he resolved to quit the kingdom; but, as in those arbitrary days, he could not do it without the king's licence, (James I.) he applied for, and obtained it. His estate however, mutilated as it was, was a tempting bait; he was ordered to return, and not obeying the mandate, was prosecuted in the Star Chamber, and easily found guilty, upon which this place was seized into the king's hands. The magnificence of the situation became the object of prince Henry's wish. A proposal was made to purchase it; commissioners were sent to make a survey, with special directions to find all things under their true worth. How well they observed their orders, may be seen from their report of the value, which they made to be about 38,000*l.* though from their return it appears, that the castle stood on seven acres of ground, was in perfect repair, fit to receive his majesty, the queen, and prince, at one time; that the value of the woods amounted to 20,000*l.* and that the circuit of the castle, manors, parks, and chace, lying round it, together contained 19 or 20 miles. Out of this 38,000*l.* 10,000*l.* was to be deducted as a fine for sir Robert's contempt in not appearing to the summons; the wood (which though confessed worth 20,000*l.* they had valued at no more than 12,000*l.*) was also to be deducted, because sir Robert's lady had a jointure therein, and if she outlived him, might sell it. After these defalcations, the prince most generously offered to give for this estate, the like of which for strength, state, and pleasure, they say was not to be found in England, the sum of 14,500*l.**

Sir Robert knew too well what he had to expect from the justice of James, or his courts, and having determined never to return to England, agreed to accept that money. The conveyances were executed, though no more than 3000*l.* was paid at the time, (and which, by the failure of the merchant who was to remit it, never came to his hands) and the prince dying soon after, he never received any part of the remainder; and yet prince Charles had no scruple of conscience about taking possession, as heir to his brother; nay, in his patent (when king) creating sir Robert's mother Duchess of Dudley, he recognizes the whole transaction†.

Perhaps a stronger proof of the inestimable blessings of a government by law, and of a trial by jury, can hardly be found; and the abolition of such a court, seems cheaply purchased by all the misfortunes and temporary confusion occasioned by the struggles against it in the time of this Charles.

The history of this family of Dudley, affords matter for other reflections. Edmund Dudley descended, or claiming so to be, from a younger son of the lords Dudley, became one of the great instruments of oppression under which the people groaned in the time of Henry VII., and was at last given up to their resentments, together with Empson, and executed. His estate, however, was restored to his son, who getting into great favour with Henry VIII., and Edward VI., was created viscount L'Isle, earl of Warwick, and duke of Northumberland. Insatiable in his ambition, he contrived to ruin the duke of Somerset and lord Thomas, his brother, uncles to Edward VI., and marrying his fourth

* Dugd. Bar. v. ii. p. 224.

† Dugd. Bar. v. ii. p. 225. Some original letters relative to this matter, (one of which is signed by Prince Henry) are now at the Board of Green Cloth, St. James's; but though the failure in payment is so fully recognized by the letters patent, yet in an account of the prince's debts (now in that office) the money remaining due on this account is stated to be no more than 391*l.* with 227*l.* for charges.

son to lady Jane Seymour, induced that prince to appoint her his successor; but here ended his career. Mary prevailing, he was beheaded. On Elizabeth's accession, the good fortune of the family seemed to return; his eldest son was restored to the titles of L'Isle and Warwick, and his second son made earl of Leicester; but this sunshine was not of long continuance. The eldest son died without issue, and Robert, often in disgrace, and under strong suspicions of the most atrocious actions, died without leaving any child, except the unfortunate sir Robert, above-mentioned. Thus this family, rising upon iniquity, and in the course of about 50 years attaining almost to royalty itself, in nearly as short a time set in obscurity.

Whilst this castle was in the hands of the crown, there was a constable appointed, with a fee of 16l. 1s. 4d. and a keeper of the park, with a fee of 4l. 11s. 3d. a year*.

Charles afterwards granted this castle to the earl of Monmouth; but Oliver gave it to several of his officers, who demolished the buildings, drained the great pool, cut down the woods, destroyed the park and chace, and divided the lands into farms amongst themselves.

On the restoration, Charles II. granted a new lease to the earl of Monmouth's daughters, and afterwards gave the inheritance to Lawrence, lord Hyde, whom he created baron of Kenilworth, and earl of Rochester; from him it has descended to the lady of lord Hyde, lately created earl of Clarendon, who has given directions that what remains of the buildings should be carefully preserved from further damage.

Here was also a monastery for black canons of the order of St. Augustin, founded by Geofry de Clinton when he built the castle. At a survey taken 26 Henry VIII. it was valued at 533l. 15s. 4d. three years after it was surrendered, and the site granted by the king to sir Andrew Flamok, whose grand-daughter and heir carried it in marriage to John Colbourn, esq. and he having bought some horses stolen out of the earl of Leicester's stable here (or pretended so to be) was so frightened by the earl, that he was glad to make his peace by giving it up to him on very easy terms†.

In this village is a manufacture of ivory and horn combs, and horn for lanthorns, in which about 32 men are employed.

The farmers hereabouts begin to be sensible of the propriety of hoeing turnips, but cannot yet prevail on themselves to do it thoroughly.

Proceed to Coventry, an old ill-built town. It was made a corporation in 18 Edward III., the walls round the town were begun to be built in 29 Edward III. (1355) and were demolished after the civil war in the last century. The magnificent and beautiful church of St. Michael was founded about 1133, and given to the monks of Coventry, by Ranulph, earl of Chester. The steeple, as it now stands, was begun in 1373, and finished in 1395, by William and Adam Botoner, who expended 100l. a year on it: the spire was added by two sisters, Ann and Mary Botoner, who also built the middle aisle in 1434. The tower is 136 feet three inches high; on that is an octagonal prism of 32 feet six inches, supported by eight springing arches; from the pinnacles within the battlements of the octagon issues a spire, eight square, each of them eight feet at the base, 130 feet nine inches high, making the whole height 300 feet. The whole length of the church is 293 feet nine inches, and the breadth, consisting of five aisles, 127 feet. The middle aisle is 50 feet high‡.

* Desid. Cur. b. ii. p. 18.

† Dugd. Warw. v. i. p. 140.

‡ Dugd. War. v. i. p. 237. 242.

The priory was founded by earl Leofric, in 1043, and stood on a descent below the church-yard of St. Michael and the Trinity, (which two churches stand very near together in one inclosure) but is now totally destroyed, with its church, though the bishop pleaded strongly with Cromwell to have had the church preserved, alledging that it was his principal see and head church. Willis, in his history of mitred abbies, printed in 1718, says, he thinks that Lichfield cathedral was built in imitation of this; that at the entrance into the close where this church stood, at the west end, there was a large arch which led to it out of the oat-market, and which then lately fell down; that not far from thence was still standing the lower part of a great tower or steeple, part of the west front, then converted into a dwelling-house; that on the south-side, next the two church-yards, stood a lesser tower, which had been demolished about 20 years before he wrote; that the foundations of the church were dug up about 50 years before, and the site turned into a bowling-alley, afterwards into a garden, as it then was; that the chief habitation of the monks was also turned into gardens, and that several apartments were supposed to be buried under ground, as appeared by the door-cases then visible at the end of the buildings next the river*. On the survey of Henry VIII. it was valued at 731l. 19s. 5d. but deducting pensions, at 499l. 7s. 4d. clear, and was surrendered in his 30th year. On digging foundations for houses, they have found the old cloysters, and some other ruins, with many grave stones. Some years ago some coffins were found, amongst which were two, supposed to be those of Leofric and Godiva†. Stone coffins have been often dug up (one in 1780) but without any inscriptions.

Soon after the conquest, Coventry, Lichfield, and Chester, were included in one diocese; the seat was removed from Lichfield to Chester, but Robert de Limesy obtained the custody of this monastery, and removed from Chester hither, when the name of abbot was suppressed, and a prior had the rule under the bishop, and sat in parliament‡. Many bishops who resided here, stiled themselves of Coventry only; but afterwards an agreement was made, that this and Lichfield should choose their bishop alternately, and make one chapter, and precedence in stile should be given to Coventry. Lichfield, however, seems to have now obtained the precedence, being generally named first.

The bishop had formerly a palace at the south-east corner of the cathedral church, facing the north-east corner of St. Michael's church-yard. It has been long since destroyed, but in 1647, a mean house in that place was sold by the name of the palace§.

The Grey Friars, or Friars Minors, escaped the dissolution of the lesser houses in 27 Henry VIII. (perhaps because they had no lands) but was surrendered in the 30th year of his reign, and demolished, except the spire of their church (built about the time of Edward III.) which now remains. The site of the house was granted to the corporation.

The White Friars had a house built for them by sir John Poultney, (four times lord mayor of London) in 16 Edward III. 1342||, but had no lands, and were not surrendered till 30 Henry VIII¶. The house was granted to sir Ralph Sadler, in 36 Henry VIII. and soon after bought of him by Mr. Hales, who also purchased of the king St. John's hospital and church, and divers lands belonging to the priory and other religious houses

* Mitred Abbies, v. i. p. 70.

† Stukeley, Itin. Cur. v. ii. p. 18. 21.

‡ On the introduction of monks into a cathedral, the bishop was looked upon in place of the abbot, and his substitute was termed a prior.

§ Stukeley, Itin. v. ii. p. 21.

|| Leland, v. iv. p. 97.

¶ Dugd. War. v. i. p. 180.

here. He resided in the house of the White Friars, and maintained a school in the choir of their church, (having obtained a licence to found a school,) but some of the magistrates of the town finding that the church was not included in the patent, applied to Queen Mary, and obtained licence to make it a parish-church*, and obliged him to remove the scholars, which he did to St. John's hospital. After this they disturbed him in possession of the lands so purchased by him, under pretence of their being granted to found a school; this treatment made him lay aside a design which he had formed of establishing a college in this city, like those at Westminster and Eton. He, however, kept up the school as long as he lived, and by his will, in 15 Elizabeth, left an estate of the then yearly value of 43l. to the mayor, bailiffs, and commonalty, to maintain it, allotting to the master the mansion house of the late master of St. John's hospital, and 20l. a year; to the usher a house within that hospital, and 10l. a year; an allowance for a music-master, and for repairs of the houses, and the surplus to be for the master and usher. This estate is now improved to 150l. a year, or more; and in 1733, the master's stipend was increased to 50l. a year, the usher's to 33l. 13s. 4d. What becomes of the surplus does not appear†.

The cross, once so famous, is now entirely destroyed. It was built on the spot where one had formerly stood; was begun in 1541, and finished in 1544, by a donation of sir William Holleys, lord mayor of London, son of Thomas Holleys, of Stoke, near this city, ancestor of the Holles's, earls of Clare. It was six square, each side seven feet at the base, diminishing in three stories, 57 feet high. There were 18 niches furnished with statues, some of which were brought from the White Friars. The pillars, pinnacles, and arches, were enriched with statuary carving, the arms of England, of the founder, and of the trades and companies‡.

St. Mary Hall, on the south of St. Michael's church, was used by the several guilds for their feasts, and now for holding the assizes, &c. Dugdale says, it appears to have been built in the time of Henry VI. A good deal of the painted glass in the windows still remains, but much defaced by the ignorant glaziers, who in repairing it from time to time, have reversed and misplaced the arms, &c. Here is an ancient wooden chair, said to be that in which King John was crowned; some armour, used in their yearly procession, in memory of lady Godiva; a picture of that fair lady on horseback; some portraits of kings and queens, of sir Thomas White, Mr. Jeffon, and some other persons.

This sir Thomas White, in 1542, gave the corporation 1400l. which was laid out in the purchase of lands, late parcel of the priory, of the yearly value of 70l. and the same were settled on them in trust, to give 24l. a year to 12 poor men, and to lend 40l. a year to industrious young men of Coventry, to enable them to set up in trade; after a period of 30 years; the towns of Northampton, Leicester, Nottingham, and Warwick, were to have a sum of 40l. for the same purpose, in rotation. These towns received the 40l. in their turns, but knew nothing of great improvements made in the estate till about 1692, when it was accidentally discovered by the corporation quarrelling amongst themselves about the division of it, and notice was given to the other towns by the bailiff of the estate, and one who had been dismissed from the office of clerk of the council-house. A bill in chancery was filed against the corporation, but it was several years before they could get at the real state of the business, or the true value of the

* The church was afterwards sold and pulled down, and the materials employed to build Mr. Boughton's house at Causton, near Rugby, in this county.

† Account of the charities given to Coventry, p. 72.

‡ Dugd. War. v. i. p. 142.

lands. In 1705 they discovered that the rents amounted to near 800l. a year, besides fines for renewals; but four years afterwards it was found, that the clear rents were about 930l. a year; and a decree was made in 1710, that the corporation should account for more than 2000l. which they had received. Whilst this was carrying on, the corporation tampered with the other towns, and made a private agreement with them to put an end to the suit on receiving a small proportion of what was due; but the story beginning to be known, and it being found that the corporation let long leases to their own members and families at small rents, some public spirited gentlemen filed an information on behalf of the poor, to set aside the agreement, and to have the encreased rents applied in augmentation of the original donations. This was done accordingly, and it was decreed, that instead of 24l. annually divided between 12 men, 243l. 3s. should be divided between 61 men, 4l. a piece to 60 of them, and 3l. 3s. to the odd one, and that eight men should each have a loan of 50l. The corporation did not relish this at all, and the 2000l. could not be got from them; whereupon the court ordered that the estate should be conveyed to the honourable William Bromley, esq. and other gentlemen of the neighbourhood, and a sequestration issued against the corporation estates (upwards of 700l. *per annum*) to levy the 2000l. The money was at last raised by sale of part of their estates; and then, in 1722, they applied to the court of chancery to have the trust estates re-conveyed to them. This was opposed by the new trustees, and by the towns of Northampton, Leicester, and Warwick, on the ground of the great abuses committed by the corporation, and that there were at that time several persons amongst them who were concerned in the abuses, and others who were privy in them; the chancellor, however, in 1725, thought fit to order a re-conveyance, the several charities being augmented as by the former decree, and the corporation are now in possession of the estate.

Besides this, sir Thomas White gave the town a further sum, to pay 40l. a year to two fellows of St. John's college, in Oxford, sons of freemen of this city; which college had been founded by him, or rather re-founded, after being quite gone to decay on its original foundation by archbishop Chichele.

This man of charity gave a further sum of 100l. a year to 24 other towns in England, to be received in rotation, and lent to industrious young men, to assist them in their setting out in the world*. This was a mode of charity much in fashion in those days, and in the beginning of the next century; highly benevolent in its intention, it assisted the deserving and useful members of the community in that part of their lives when assistance would be most serviceable; and laying a foundation on which many ample fortunes have been built, it enabled them in their turns to exercise a benevolence which would be naturally excited by a recollection of that to which they owed their ability. In these days, however, it is too liable (in borough towns especially) to great abuses.

Mr. Jeffon, above-mentioned, gave the town 2000l. with which an estate in Gloucestershire was bought, the rents of which are to be applied in putting out apprentices, distributing bread, &c. and to lend 20l. a year to poor tradesmen. There are other charities to a large amount.

In 1768 an act of parliament was passed for making a navigable canal from hence to communicate with that which was carrying on to join the Trent and the Mersey, and the next year another act was passed to make a canal from hence to Oxford.

These were noble undertakings, which promised to be of the greatest service to the country; but useful as they were, they met with violent opposition. Amongst the ob-

* Ipswich charities.

jections to the latter, it was urged in the House of Commons, that it would injure the Newcastle coal trade, that great nursery of seamen, on which our naval strength so much depends, by enabling Oxford and the neighbourhood to buy pit-coal cheaper than they could do sea-coal; so far will people go for an argument to answer a present purpose! Private interest, and perhaps private pique, unfortunately contributed to impede the work. The subscribers to the two canals could not agree on the place where they should join, and they are carried on in nearly a parallel line for a considerable length; this has contributed to exhaust their money without any use. The former is carried no further than about Atherstone, and seems at a stand; the latter has reached Banbury, as mentioned before, but the expence has already so greatly exceeded the estimate for the whole, that it is feared it will not soon be completed. Its being carried close to the town of Banbury, is said to have been attended with a great additional cost, which would have been much more usefully employed in extending it farther. It is also said that it should have commenced at another place, nearer Birmingham, where much better coals would have been got. The cost has been more than 200,000*l.* of which 150,000*l.* was subscribed, 50,000*l.* borrowed since, and a debt of some thousands outstanding.

Near Bedworth is a coal-mine of sir Roger Newdigate (whose seat is not far off), from which he has made a cut to communicate with the navigation. He has here a wheel of 36 feet diameter, which throws out the water and draws up the coals at the same time. In the coal-mines here it is said, that large toads have been often found in the solid coal*.

Come to Nuneaton, a town so named from a nunnery of the order of Fontevrault, (in Poitiers) founded by Robert Bosu, earl of Leicester, before 1161. In the houses of this order beyond sea, there were religious men as well as women, but subject to the government of the abbess or prioress. This petticoat government seems to have been disliked in England, as there were only two more houses of this order in the kingdom, and there is no express account of any monk in any of them, but only of a prior at Nuneaton†. The earl's wife became a nun, and died here. By the survey, 26 Henry VIII. it was valued at 290*l.* 15*s.* ½ and was surrendered in the 31st of that king, and granted to sir Marmaduke Constable, who is buried in the church‡, under a monument which was once a handsome one, but is now much defaced. In a field at the end of the town, going towards Atherstone, (on the left) are some remains of the nunnery; one arch is yet standing, but nothing more than the hewn stone is left at the top, and there are some fragments of walls. One arch lately fell down.

I did not take the direct road to Hinckley, but went towards Atherstone, in order to visit Manceter, a considerable Roman station. The village is about three miles from Nuneaton; in the way to it pass over a hill, from the top of which is a good prospect. The church stands on an eminence, which Dr. Stukeley says, seems to have been a camp, having been intrenched very deeply. Near it is a neat hospital. On the left of the church is Oldbury, a large square fort of 30 acres, on a high hill, from whence is a very extensive view. Flint axes of the Britons, about four inches and an half broad, have been found near this place. Mr. Okeover has a seat here, which he is rebuilding in the area of the camp. The old house was a cell to the nunnery of Poleworth. Other camps, called Shugbury, Arbury, and Borough, are seen from hence §.

* Itin. Cur. vol. ii. p. 19.

† Burn's Eccl. Law, vol. ii. p. 54.

‡ Dugd. Warw. vol. ii. p. 1066.

§ Itin. Cur. vol. ii. p. 20.

When you have passed through the turnpike, a little lane on the right leads down into the Watling-street, were, taking the right again, you cross the river Anker, (in its way from Nuneaton to Tamworth) and presently afterwards go through the old Roman city, which lies on both sides the road, partly in Leicestershire, partly in Warwickshire. The field in the former is called Oldfield-banks, in the latter, Castle-banks. It is 600 feet long, 200 broad on each side the road. Great stones, mortar, Roman bricks, iron, and many coins of brass and silver, and some of gold, have been dug up here*. A bridge was building over the river when I was there†.

Continue on the Watling-street till near Hinckley, when you come into the turnpike road, which leads directly from Nuneaton thither.

Hinckley is a market town just within the borders of Leicestershire, formerly distinguished by a castle, a large park, and a priory; now by the more humble, but much more useful, employment of the stocking-frame, of which about 1000 are here employed. The castle was built by Hugh de Grantmesnil, who came into England with William I. it stood near the east end of the church, but has long been entirely demolished. A good modern house, belonging to Mr. Hurst, is built on part of the site. The park has been disparked many years. In 1755, in a field near the Holy-well, six nobles of gold of Edward III. were found, two of which are in the hands of Mr. Whalley, of Hinckley.

The office of steward of England was given to this Hugh on his marriage, and made an hereditary office. It descended from him to his grandson Hugh, who held the honor of Hinckley by that service‡. His grandson died, leaving two daughters only, the eldest of whom married Robert Blanchmains§, earl of Leicester, and carried this estate to him. His son left two sisters, his coheirs, one of whom married the great Simon de Montfort, who was created earl of Leicester in 1206, and possessed this honor and high stewardship. He, taking part with the French against King John, was stripped of his honors and estate; the latter were given to Randolph, earl of Chester, but the king retained the high stewardship; nor would Henry III. restore that when he gave back his other honors and estates to his son. The first Hugh de Grantmesnil founded here a priory of canons aliens, belonging to the abbey of Lira, in Normandy||; this house was suppressed by Henry V. amongst many other alien priories¶. A house called the Priory, or the Hall, on the south side of the church-yard, stands on the site of it; what is now converted into several rooms, is in memory to have been one large hall. The centre was rebuilt in the year 1715, by Mr. Gerard, then owner, but the wings are of much older date. The garden is now made into a bowling-green.

On a mantle-piece in the kitchen is a strange ornament in a kind of baked clay, which tradition has erroneously called the "arms of three monks;" but a second, with more probability, calls them the signs of three houses, the Eagle and Child, the Rose, and

* Itin. Cur. vol. ii. p. 20.

† 1779.

‡ Case of lady Willoughby, of Eresby, claiming the office of great chamberlain.

§ Mr. Nichols, in his history of Hinckley, p. 9, gives an ingenious and probable solution of the origin of this nick-name of Blanchmains; he supposes it might be derived from the white scurf of the leprosy, then a very common disease, rather than from the beauty of his hands, especially as his son William was so infected with that malady, that he founded an hospital for it in Leicester, the common seal of which hospital was lately found at Saffron Walden, in Essex. I should add, that if the name was given on account of the delicate colour of his hands, it was probably given in ridicule of what, in those days of hardihood, would be considered as an effeminacy; but effeminacy was not his character.

|| Nichols's Hinckley, p. 9.

¶ Burton's Leicester, p. 123.

Bull's Head, which were designed for the relief of pilgrims travelling through Hinckley, who were to receive a night's lodging, and something the next morning to help them forward on their journey*.

The priory possessed about 214 acres of land here; and not many years ago, on a trial about tythe, a monk from the abbey of Lira was brought over, and produced the original grant. This land and the church were given by Henry VIII. to the dean and chapter of Westminster, who are the present owners.

About five miles from Hinckley the battle was fought which placed the crown on the head of Henry VII., and which is commonly called the battle of Bosworth, but Sutton-field was the scene of it. Sir Reginald Bray, indefatigable in the service of the earl of Richmond, is said to have found Richard's crown in a thorn bush, the memory of which was preserved by a painting on glass in his house at Steane in Northamptonshire, which remained when Mr. Bridges collected the notes for his history of that county, if it is not still there. In his arms was added a thorn, with a crown in the middle†. The name of Crown-hill, which a place in the field still retains, seems to refer to this story; though commonly said to be the spot from which the earl harangued his army, there is more probability that it got its name from this circumstance.

Sensible of the services and of the abilities of sir Reginald, Henry bestowed on him high honors and employments, and Steane was one of the estates with which that king very munificently rewarded an attachment which continued unaltered to the time of his death. It will be allowed me to repeat with pleasure, that in this situation, and in a reign the favorites of which are not generally well spoken of, his integrity procured him from historians the character of, "a very father of his country, a fervent lover of justice, and one who would often admonish the king when he did any thing contrary to right‡." Nor is it less to his honor, that notwithstanding he took a liberty so seldom allowed, he never lost the favor of the king during the 17 years of his reign in which he lived.

In Stokefield, between Hinckley and Sutton, money has been lately found, supposed to have belonged to some who fell in that battle. The coins were sold to Mr. Warden, a mercer at Nuneaton.

A great variety of curious fossils and petrifications have been found of late in a gravel-pit, about a mile from the town, in the road to Derby. Mr. Wells, of Burbach, and Mr. John Robinson, of Hinckley, have formed collections of them. Near the town is a spot from whence 50 churches may be counted§.

Leicestershire has not many gentlemen's houses of note in it, and not many matters of curiosity, but has much rich pasture, and feeds great numbers of cattle and sheep.

Go through Earl's Shilton, on the left of which is the seat of lord viscount Wentworth, and afterwards pass by Tooley Park, in Leland's time belonging to the king||, lately purchased of Mr. Boothby by Mr. Dodd.

A little before coming to Leicester, cross the Roman foss way, and on the left of the bridge, at the entrance of the town, see the arch over the river which Richard III. passed in his way to Bosworth. It is entire, but is not now used, a wall being built across one end of it¶.

* Nichols's History of Hinckley, p. 33.

† Bridges's Northamptonshire, p. 197.

‡ A more particular account of sir Reginald is in the second vol. of the new edition of the Biographia Britannica.

§ History of Hinckley, p. 66.

|| Itin. vol. i. p. 17.

¶ A view of it is engraved in Peck's Desid. Curiosa.

Leicester is a place of great extent, being near a mile square, but the entrance from every quarter is disgraced by dirty mud walls. The market-place, however, is large and spacious, with a handsome building in it belonging to the corporation, where they have their feasts, and where music meetings and assemblies are held. The town hall is mean, and in an obscure situation.

It is a very old town, where Camden fixes the *Ratae Coritanorum* of the Romans, of whom there are many traces found here. The old building, called Jewry Wall, at the west end of St. Nicholas church-yard, is supposed by Mr. Burton, to be part of a temple of Janus; this opinion has been controverted, though the antiquity is not questioned, and the number of bones of oxen dug up here, seem plainly to shew that it has been a place of sacrifice. The common name given to it, from the finding those bones, is Holy Bones. The length of it is about 28 yards, the height about nine; it is built of layers of rough forest stone, and brick or tile, the bricks of various sizes; some have been found to be 18 inches long, 15 broad, and two thick, the mortar between the bricks as thick as the bricks themselves; 17 strata of these have been counted on the side next the church, 13 on the other side. Near the middle, at five yards distance from each other, are two arches, which served for entrances, each about three yards wide, four and an half high. There are several holes in the wall in different strata, about six inches square, and some higher up, which are as large again, and go quite through the wall. On the inside are four arches, the two largest in the middle, in part answering the two on the outside. In the column between these two, appears the remainder of an arch work, which seems to be made for reverberating heat, and in all the inside the blackness of the stones and bricks gives plain indication of fire and smoke. In the arch on the south side, a small tenement has been built. Mr. Throsby says, this and the second and fourth arches are 13 feet high, 12 wide; the middle one four feet over; the fifth is 12 feet by six*.

St. Nicholas's church is a very ancient one, and has had some of the materials of this old building employed in it, rows of Roman brick being very visible. The walls are of great thickness.

Several Roman coins in silver and copper, of Vespasian, Domitian, Trajan, Hadrian, Antonine, and others, have been found†. A Mosaic pavement was discovered a few years ago on repairing a house (where now is a bath) near Richard's Bridge, but it was broken to pieces. That which represents the story of Diana and Acteon had better fortune, being carefully preserved, and now entire in a cellar of Mr. Worthington, in Northgate-street.

The town was nearly destroyed by Henry II. when he took it from Robert Blanchmains, who joined prince Henry in his rebellion against his father. "The plan of the town, as it stood before this demolition, (says Mr. Nichols, from a MS. of Mr. Ludlam) is easily to be traced. In the heart of the town, on each side the principal street, are a number of large orchards, separated not with one common fence, as usual, but a double fence; a wall belonging to each, with public ways between the two walls, called Back-lanes. These lanes were manifestly the streets, and the orchards the site of houses and yards destroyed and never since rebuilt. The traces of the town wall and ditch are in many places plainly to be seen. Dr. Stukeley's plan of Roman Leicester, is supposed to be a mere figment. There are vestiges of two Roman works, and no more; the mount near the river, as was their custom, and the ruins of a bath near

* Throsby's Leicester, vol. i. p. 47.

† Burton, p. 147.

St. Nicholas's church. Two tessellated pavements have been found there, the latest and largest about 1750*."

There was a bishop of Leicester for about two centuries, viz. from about 679 to 885, when the see was translated to Dorchester, in Oxfordshire. The episcopal see was in St. Margaret's parish, the impropriation and advowson of which parish now form one of the prebendaries in the church of Lincoln†.

Besides St. Nicholas's, there are now three other churches, and it is said there were formerly five more. Of these, St. Peter was taken down in the time of Queen Elizabeth, the parish being small, and insufficient to maintain it, and it was united to All-Saints. St. Leonard's had been rebuilt a little before the civil war, in the time of Charles I. and was taken down when the town was garrisoned, to prevent its being useful to the enemy‡.

Robert de Bellomont, earl of Leicester, founded a collegiate church near the castle, and dedicated it to our lady, placing in it a dean and canons§. It seems to have been refounded, or rebuilt, and the endowment much enlarged by Henry, duke of Lancaster, who established in it a dean, 12 prebends, 12 choristers, and other servants||. To this church he presented, as an inestimable relic, one of the thorns of our Saviour's crown, which had been given him by the king of France, and which was preserved in a stand of pure gold¶. This building, which was very magnificent, stood in the Newark, where Mr. Colman's garden now is, and was destroyed at the dissolution. Three of the houses belonging to the chauntry priests remain; one of them was purchased within this century, for the vicar of St. Mary's, near the castle**.

The same duke Henry, in 1330, began the hospital adjoining to his church††, but did not live to complete the buildings, as appears by letters patent of Henry IV. in the first year of his reign, who recites, that Henry, duke of Lancaster, his grandfather, had begun to build this church, and certain houses, walls, and edifices for the inclosing of the church and college, and the habitation of the canons, clerks, and poor people there living; and that John, duke of Lancaster, his father, had desired to complete the same, and that he was himself desirous of hastening the works, that he might have a share in the merits; he therefore assigns certain persons to provide workmen and materials for the doing thereof‡‡. He provided for 100 poor and weak men and women, and ten able women to serve and assist the sick and weak. A few years ago this was a long, low building, of one story, covered with lead, in which were a range of places about the size of the pews of a church, and not much higher, covered at the top with a few old boards. Each of these was just large enough to hold something like a bed, and one chair, and was the habitation of a miserable pauper, who received 7d. a-week in money. This, with the charity-box, opened once a-year, and a small surplus of rent, amounting to a few shillings a-piece, was all they received. On one side of the room was a common fire-place for the men, on the other for the women; and there was a common kitchen, in which was a large pot, which they shewed as that of John of Ghent. A room inhabited by the nurses, was a little more decent, and they had a lodging room over it. The east end of the building

* History of Hinckley, p. 10.

† Throsby, vol. iv. p. 89.

|| Dugd. Mon. vol. ii. p. 468.

•• Throsby, vol. i. p. 141.

†† Ibid. vol. iii. p. 139.

† Willis's Cath. vol. iii. p. 43, 201.

§ Dugd. Bar. vol. i. p. 84.

¶ Dugd. Bar. vol. i. p. 84.

‡‡ Dugd. Mon. vol. ii. p. 468.

was a chapel, in which was the following inscription; "Henry Grifmond*, duke of Lancaster, and earl of Leicester. He was founder of this hospital in the year of our Lord 1332, and since granted by charter, by our late gracious sovereign King James, to be called the Holy Trinity, in the 12th year of his reign."

The building being gone to great decay, the rain getting in, and rendering several of the boxes uninhabitable, his majesty gave a sum of money out of his privy purse for rebuilding it, which was done in 1776, but not in a manner suitable to his majesty's generous intentions. He augmented the income with 14l. a-year, and 54 men and 36 women now receive a weekly stipend of 2s. 1d $\frac{1}{2}$. each.

In the church-yard of St. Martin is another hospital, built on the same plan, but on a larger scale, the habitations being tolerably comfortable. It was founded by sir William Wigeston, about the time of Henry VI. for a master, con-frater, 12 poor men, and 12 poor women. The con-frater has a neat house adjoining, and reads prayers; the poor men and women have each an apartment, and three shillings a-week. The master, who never resides, has a salary of 200l. a-year, and the benefit of renewing the leases of a very considerable estate, which is reckoned worth 300l. a-year more. Can he reflect on the situation of the paupers, and think the intention of the charitable founder is answered †?

Adjoining to this is a small public library for the ministers and scholars of the town.

In Northgate street is an ancient hospital for poor women, where, within a small porch, is a circular arch, with a zig-zag ornament round it.

A handsome infirmary has been built in 1771 at one extremity of the town, and is supported by subscription. In digging the foundations, many human bones were found, supposed to be those of persons buried in a chapel called St. Sepulchre's, which had been destroyed long before.

In St. Margaret's church is an alabaster monument for John Penney, once abbot of the abbey here, afterwards bishop of Carlisle, in 1509. There is a whole length figure of him in his episcopal habit.

In St. Martin's church is an epitaph for Mr. John Heyrick, who died 2d April 1589, aged 76, expressing that he lived in one house with Mary his wife, 52 years, and in all that time never buried either man, woman, or child, though he had sometimes 20 in family. His wife lived to be 97 years old, and saw of her children, grand-children, and great grand-children, to the number of 143†.

There

* Grifmond was a lordship in Monmouthshire, which belonged to him, but why added to his name here I do not know.

† Mr. Throsby, in his account of Leicester, says, he is informed the revenue is not so large; it will not, however, be denied, that it is considerable, that the master does not reside or do any duty, and that the poor are very slenderly provided for according to the present value of money.

‡ In the former edition I had mentioned another instance of longevity and remarkable vigour in this neighbourhood, from the register of Keym, or Keham, a few miles from hence; the book is in the handwriting of Mr. Thomas Samson the minister, and signed by him from 1563 till near the time of his death in 1655. By this register it appears that he had eight children, born as follows, viz.

1. Joyce, baptized February 12, 1630.
2. Ann, baptized May 6, 1632.
3. Edward, baptized February 6, 1633.
4. Francis, baptized October 11, 1635.
5. Thomas, baptized November 1, 1637.
6. John, baptized December 15, 1639.
7. Susannah, baptized July 25, 1641.
8. Elizabeth, baptized October 20, 1644.

There is very little left of the castle, except the hall, now used for holding the assizes; near it is a large vault, which they call John of Ghent's cellar. He and the other dukes of Lancaster, resided much here whilst they were owners of it.

In a house inhabited by Mr. John Stevens, is a spacious room, lighted by a window, which is continued from one end to the other, and in which are 28 pieces of painted glass, some of saints, others of part of our Saviour's history, others the seven sacraments of the Romish church. Mr. Throsby conjectures it to have been a chauntry belonging to Corpus Christi, or St. George's guild.

There were in the town three priories, and one house for religious of the order of St. Francis*.

The abbey of St. Mary de Pratis (so named from its being situate in the meadows near Leicester) was founded by Robert de Bellamont, surnamed Bossu, earl of Leicester, in 1143, for canons of the order of St. Augustin. He at length took on him the habit, and continued there 15 years. The abbots used to sit in parliament; but in the middle of the 14th century, an exemption was obtained, as from a burthen. Very different from the opinion of the present times! At this abbey cardinal Wolsey died in his way to London, having been arrested on a charge of high treason; the spot of his interment has been often searched for, under an idea that great riches were buried with him, but it has never been discovered. On the dissolution, it was granted to Mr. Cavendish, the faithful servant of the cardinal; in Queen Elizabeth's time it was possessed by the earl of Huntingdon, but was afterwards in the Cavendish family again, the countess of Devonshire residing there before the civil war, in which it was burnt by the royalists, and little left but the walls round the garden, part of the gateway, and porter's lodge. What remains of some rooms is of later date. The present duke of Devonshire's grandfather transferred it to lord William Manners, from whom it has come to the present owner, Mr. John Manners.

Gilbert Foliot, the faithful friend of Henry II. (who was never to be terrified from his allegiance by the threats or power of Becket) and Henry de Knighton, the historian, were abbots here.

As he could not serve the cure before he was 22, the computation was, that he had served it at the birth of his

1st child at least	67 years, and was then aged	89
2d	69	91
3d	70	92
4th	72	94
5th	74	96
6th	76	98
7th	78	100
8th	81	103.

Mr. Samson was buried August 4, 1655, and it seemed that he was then at least 114 years old, and had been minister of Keym 92 years.

This I had inserted from an account I saw of it; but desirous of examining into so extraordinary a story myself, I have since been at Keham and seen the register. It is very true that it is signed by Mr. Samson, as minister, every year from 1563 to 1655, or thereabouts; but on inspection it appears, that from 1563 to about 1633 is nothing more than a transcript made by Mr. Samson from a former register, and attested by him at the bottom of each page by signing his name as minister, omitting to date his attestation. A circumstance corroborates this; he has added the names of his two churchwardens after his own, which are the same for the first 70 years, a thing which would be not much less marvellous than his own age. It may be further observed, that after 1633 (or thereabouts, for I do not recollect the exact year) there appears to be different churchwardens every year.

* Willis's Mitred Abbies, vol. ii. p. 113.

About half a mile south of the town, near the way to Elston, by the side of the race-ground, is a long ditch, called Rawdikes, which Stukeley calls a British Curfus. It is said Charles I. stood on these banks whilst his men took and pillaged Leicester*.

Camden speaks with some degree of uncertainty as to Leicester being the Roman station Ratae; Salmon totally denies it†; and Horsey affirms it‡: but in 1773 a military stone was discovered, which fixes it. About two miles from Leicester, on the fosse way which goes to Newark, (and which is now part of the turnpike road to Melton Mowbray) there was a kind of stepping block, little noticed; on removing the earth from the foot of it, was discovered a stone, to which it had doubtless served as a pedestal, on which was the following inscription:

IMP CAES
DIV KALAN PART F DI
KALAN HADRIAN AVG
POT M COS I H A RATIS
H

This stone is two feet ten inches long, five feet five inches and an half in circumference; it is of a gritty sort, supposed by masons to be from a Derbyshire quarry. The letters in the upper line are four inches long, in the others but three. The second and third lines seem to have been continued further, some traces of letters being visible on the back part. The two strokes at the bottom probably denote the distance from Ratae, with which it agrees.

Two or three miles from Leicester, on the left, some woods and a windmill on a hill, mark an old seat of the Greys, called Bradgate, built by Thomas Grey, marquis of Dorset§, and inhabited by that family till it was accidentally burnt down some years ago; but the park, six miles in compass, remains. It was the birth-place of the accomplished, but unfortunate, Lady Jane Grey. Near it is Groby, from which the family took a title; there was formerly a castle, which was destroyed entirely before Leland's time. The above-mentioned Thomas began to build a house here, but did not finish it||.

About five miles from Leicester, on the left, is Temple Rotheley, or Rotherby, granted by King Stephen to Randolph, earl of Chester¶. It was afterwards a house of the knights Templars, from which it takes its name, but has been for a considerable time the seat of the Babingtons; some of the lands are extra-parochial. There are no monuments of any of the Templars in the church, but there are some old ones for the Kyngstons, Robert Vyncent, esq. and for the Babingtons. On a raised tomb for a Kingston, who died in 1487, is engraved his will, by which he founded an obit in this church. In the chancel are handsome busts of a Mr. Babington of the last century, and his wife, a daughter of Mr. Hopkins of Coventry, by whom he had twelve children at single births in less than thirteen years. The north side of the church-yard is

* Itin. vol. i. p. 102.

§ Leland's Itin. vol. i. p. 14.

† New Survey, vol. i. p. 316.

|| Ibid. p. 15.

‡ Brit. Rom. p. 437.

¶ Dugd. Bar. vol. i. p. 39.

appropriated to the burials of the inhabitants of that part of Mountsorrel which is within this parish. In the south side is an upright stone pillar, about 10 or 12 feet high, tapering from the bottom, on the west side of which is some tracery work carved; something of carving is to be seen in other parts. At the foot lie three flat stones, as if placed for supports. There is no tradition concerning it. Mr. Babington has the great tythes, and is entitled to a sum of money from every one making a purchase of lands within certain towns in what is called his foke. The common fields were inclosed in 1781.

On the right are Cossington, and Radcliff on the Soar, where is the Roman station called Vennomentum. Dr. Stukeley says, there is a vast long tumulus of an arch-druid, and derives the name of Cossington from Coes, a priest*. Camden's Continuator considers it as Danish†.

Pass through Mountsorrel, a long, ill-paved town; as far as the cross is in the parish of Temple Rotheley, other part is in Barrow, and the further end is in Quarn-don. It stands at the foot of a remarkable hill, or rather rock; the stone in many places stands out bare, and is of such hardness as to resist all tools after it has been exposed to the air. Such pieces as can be got from underground are broken with a sledge, and used in buildings in the shape in which they are broken. He was formerly a castle, which belonged to Ranulph, earl of Chester, who came to an agreement with the earl of Leicester, in 1151, (16 Stephen) by which it was settled that Leicester should henceforth possess this castle, to be held of the earl of Chester and his heirs, on condition that he should receive earl Ranulph and his retinue into the borough and fort there upon occasion; and in case of necessity, that Ranulph himself should lodge in the castle. At the same time it was stipulated, that neither of them should erect any castle between Coventry and Donington, or between Donington and Leicester‡. On the rebellious behaviour of Robert Blanchmains, it was seized by Henry II. and retained, when he gave him back great part of his estate§. It seems to have remained in the hands of the crown till the 17 John, when that king committed the care of it to Saier de Quincy, earl of Winchester, who married one of the sisters and coheiresses of Robert Fitz-Parnell, son and heir of Robert Blanchmains||. Saier, however, who had received many other favours from the king, did not hold himself bound by any ties of gratitude, (which indeed seems to have had no force in those tumultuous times) but took part with the barons, who invited over Louis, the Dauphin of France, and placed a French garrison in this castle, giving the government to Henry de Braibroc. On the accession of Henry III. it was unsuccessfully attacked, as Rapin says, by the earl of Chester¶; but Burton and Dugdale say, it was taken by him, granted to him by Henry, and that he entirely destroyed it**. Some very small fragments of the foundation are to be seen on a round part of the hill, called Castle-hill.

It is well worth while to walk over this hill, instead of riding through the town. The rich meadows below, through which runs the Soar, and the rising ground on the further side of it, with the towns of Sileby, Barrow, &c. form a fine view. The meadows are very flat, and after heavy rains, the river spreads to a great width. At such times this hill is said to bear a resemblance to Gibraltar.

* Itin. vol. i. p. 107, 2, 134. † Brit. vol. i. p. 416. ‡ Dugd. Bar. vol. i. p. 38.
§ Ibid. vol. i. p. 88. || Ibid. vol. i. p. 637. ¶ Rapin, vol. i. p. 297.
** Burton. Dugd. Bar. vol. i. p. 43.

In the street is an ancient cross, almost hid by a paltry building, enclosing the pedestal and part of the shaft, which is long and slender, of eight sides, fluted, and in the flutes are carved some heads, quaterfoils, and other ornaments. It is raised on three steps, and at each corner of the pedestal is a rude figure with wings. It is said there is an intention of taking it down. There is a small chapel belonging to this town.

Barrow, on the other side the river, was part of the great estate of the earl of Chester; and when that was divided between four sisters, this fell to the lot of Hugh de Albany, earl of Arundell, son of Mabel, one of the four, at which time there was a capital mansion here*. Afterwards it belonged to the knights templars†. The earl of Chester gave possessions here to the abbey of Gerondont‡. It has been always famous for its excellent lime, which is of such repute for water-works, that much of it is exported to Holland. It becomes so hard, that it is said even to exceed the hardness of the stone above taken notice of. It lies in thin strata; the first under the earth is yellow, and below this are several others of blue stone, about six inches thick, and about two feet asunder. Both sorts are dug out, piled up in the form of a cone, and burnt. The burning one of these heaps takes up two days and three nights. The demand for it has encreased within these few years in a very great degree. Two fossils have been lately found here, one with the impressiion of a fish, the other has the resemblance of a head of some animal. They were found in a bed of clay, near the surface of the earth. Some sea shells have been also found§.

At this place is an hospital for old batchelors and widowers; a foundation not very common.

On extending the inclosures in this country, many of the old ones are broken up, and it is found good husbandry so to do. They lime them, and in three or four years lay them down again. The lime for manure is chiefly burnt at Grace Dieu, some miles off, where was an abbey founded by Roesia de Verdon in the 27th Henry III.||

Pursuing the road, some hills covered with wood present themselves on the left, and near them is Swithland, the seat of sir John Danvers, of a very ancient family, and possessed of a large estate. There is here a slate quarry, the property of the earl of Stamford, but the slates are not equal in goodness to those of Westmoreland and Cumberland. More on the left the forest hills of Charnwood are seen, where coal is got. This forest extends about ten miles in length and six in width, and is now without a tree in the uninclosed parts of it, though in the memory of an old man, known to one who was alive in 1777, a squirrel might have been hunted in it from tree to tree for six miles together, without touching the ground.

Come to Loughborough, an old market town, which has twice given the title of baron to the family of Hastings: The first time to Edward, third son of George, earl of Huntingdon, to whom the manor and title were given by Queen Mary, in reward for his powerful and timely assistance to her against his neighbour the duke of Suffolk, father of the lady Jane Grey. She conferred the garter, and several high posts on him; and such was his attachment to her, that on her death he retired from the world to an hospital which he had built at Stoke Poges, in Bucks, where he died without issue. Charles I. gave the title to Henry Hastings, second son of the earl of Huntingdon, for an equally faithful, though less successful, adherence to him; he also died without

* Dugd. Bar. vol. i. p. 45.

† Dugd. Mon. vol. i. p. 768.

‡ Willis's Cath. vol. iii. p. 301.

§ Throsby vol. vi. p. 67.

|| Dugd. Mon. vol. i. p. 933.

issue*. In 1781 the title was given to Alexander Wedderburn, Esq. on his being made chief justice of the Common Pleas; a gentleman whose abilities at the bar and in the senate are well known. The manor was given by Edward IV. to William Hastings, his faithful adherent, who assisted him in his escape from Middleham, and now belongs to his descendant the earl of Huntingdon. This William was rewarded with the stewardship of a great number of manors, was made constable of Leicester, Donington, and Nottingham castles, ranger of Leicester Forest, and the parks called Leicester Feyth, Barow Park, and Fooley Park, warden of Shirewood, chief forester of Needwood and Duffield, and surveyor of that honour, and had grants of the manors of Donington and Barow, and was made a baron†. In short, Edward seems to have thought he could never do enough for him. His attachment did not cease with the death of that king; he retained the same affection for his sons, and lost his life in consequence, Richard thinking it necessary to remove him out of his way. 'Tis pity that an example of such firm friendship should be stained by the inhuman murder of the unfortunate young prince, the son of Henry VI., (who was basely stabbed in cold blood at Tewksbury by this Hastings, and others) and by his connivance at least, at the beheading of Rivers and Grey, by Richard, at Pomfret castle. The story is well known, that as Hastings was going to that council in the Tower, from which he never returned, he exulted in the thought that his enemies were at that very time suffering at Pomfret.

A few years ago the river Soar was made navigable from hence to the Trent, which it falls into, near Cavendish bridge.

Mr. Meynell's famous fox-hunt established at Quarndon, (between Mountsorrell and this place) is no small emolument to the town in the season. The hounds are kept by subscription, but that gentleman permits his servant to accommodate as many of his friends as his house will hold with apartments, where they are furnished with dinners, and all provisions, as at any public place. Many of those who attend the hunt, and cannot get apartments in the house, or are strangers, come to the inns, and great numbers of hunters are also kept here. The company on a field day is very numerous, and they go out with as much ceremony as to court, their hair being always dressed.

On the left of Loughborough is a neat white house of Mr. Tate, on the rising ground towards the forest. A little beyond is Gerondon Park, bought by Serjeant Phillips of the duke of Buckingham for judge Jefferies, but the serjeant liked the purchase so well, that he kept it for himself. The duke, however, cut down 5000l. worth of timber before he would execute the conveyance. One of the serjeant's family, who died a few years ago, left it to his widow for her life; she married Sir William Gordon, who now lives here. It was an abbey of the Cistercian order, founded by Robert earl of Leicester (the founder of Leicester abbey) in 15 Henry II. and was valued at 159l. 19s. 10d.½ on the survey by Henry VIII‡.

A little farther, at Dishley, on a farm belonging to this estate lives Mr. Bakewell, whose improvements in the breed of cattle and in farming, are well known to every lover of husbandry. There is a small church or chapel here, formerly belonging to the abbey of Gerondon, to which this parish was appropriated§, and it is now a curacy in the gift of sir William Gordon.

Go through Kegworth, a large village with a handsome church; beyond this you may leave the turnpike road and go to Donnington Park, the seat of lord Huntingdon, and come into the road again at Cavendish bridge.

* Camd. vol. i. p. 416.

† Dugd. Bar. vol. i. p. 580, &c.

‡ Dugd. Mon. vol. i. 768.

§ Willis's Cath. v. iii. p. 301.

At the village of Donnington are some small remains of the castle, built by the first earls of Leicester, as Camden says* ; but it afterwards belonged to Roger de Laci, constable of Chester, and on his death, in 15 John, was retained in the hands of the king, who, however, the next year, restored it to John, son and heir of Roger ; Edmund, son of this John, had a grant of free warren, 35 Henry III., and Henry, son of Edmund enjoyed it, having a grant of a market here in the 6 Edward I. On the death of Henry it descended to Alice, his daughter and heir, wife of Thomas, earl of Lancaster, and who, outliving her husband, gave up her right in it to the king in 16 Edward II.† It remained in the crown when Leland visited it‡. In the reign of Queen Elizabeth it was the property of Robert, earl of Essex, who sold it to the Hastings§. At this time the castle was destroyed and the house built||. On the survey made by Henry VIII. an hospital here was returned worth 3l. 13s. 4d. a year¶.

The park is about a mile beyond the village ; the house is small, and has nothing in it worth seeing. Weston Cliff, on the Trent, which runs below, has furnished a view for one of Smith's prints.

Returning to the village, you come to the handsome bridge over the Trent, which is called Cavendish Bridge, from the Devonshire family, who built it in the room of a very inconvenient ferry which used to be here ; the toll is taken the same as used to be at the ferry, and is half a crown for a chaise. The stone used in it, was brought from a quarry about three miles off.

Near this place the great Staffordshire navigation joins the Trent, and by means of that, and the duke of Bridgewater's canals, there is a water carriage from Liverpool and Manchester to Hull. There is a branch from the Staffordshire, which goes off between Stone and Ridgley, by Wolverhampton and Kidderminster, to the Severn, and another to Birmingham.

These undertakings are truly stupendous, and strongly mark the spirit of enterprise, which is so much the character of the present age. The advantages to trade are immense, and in other respects are very great to the country through which the canals pass.

The first part of this great work may be said to have been begun by the Duke of Bridgewater about 1759 ; for the small attempts which had been before made on the Weaver and the Irwell, were carried on with so little spirit, as hardly to deserve notice. His grace has pursued the scheme ever since with unremitting attention. Instead of employing his time and money in the fashionable dissipations of the age, he gave up both to an undertaking great in the design, and most beneficial to the public in the execution, but attended with difficulties which would have been insuperable to one of less spirit or fortune than his grace, and to less abilities than those he was so fortunate to find in his workmen, amongst whom Mr. Brindley stands foremost. When a great fortune comes into such hands, such an application of it reflects additional lustre on the noble owner !

It was the duke's great happiness to meet with a man of Mr. Brindley's genius, which broke out like the sun from a dark cloud, he having been totally destitute of education ; it was no less advantageous to the public, that under such a patron, Mr. Brindley was called forth and encouraged. He began this difficult work, but other very ingenious men have assisted in carrying it on, particularly Mr. Morris and Mr. Gilbert. Nor did Mr. Brindley, with a littleness too common, endeavour to conceal his discove-

* V. i. p. 417.

† Dugd. Bar. vol. i. p. 101, 103, 104, 106.

‡ Itin. v. i. p. 18.

§ Camden, vol. i. p. 417.

|| Throsby, v. ii. p. 48.

¶ Dugd. Mon. v. i. 1041.

ries in mechanics; he has readily made them public, and has reared men whose abilities are now distinguished. The difficulties attending these undertakings only served to stimulate the managers, and their perseverance has overcome them all.

This navigation of the duke's begins at his coal-pits by Worsley-mill, and goes to Manchester one way, and another by Altrincham and Haulton, to Runcorn-gap, on the Mersey, and crossing that river, to Liverpool, besides a cut from between Stretford and Altrincham to Stockport.

At Worsley-mills, it is carried a mile and half, or more, under ground to the very places where the coal is dug, and by means of bridges, or rather aqueducts, is carried across the navigable rivers Irwell and Mersey. This subterraneous passage carries off the water from the coal works, which used to be drawn out by engines at a very great expence, and at the same time supplies water for the canal.

So far I cannot omit mentioning the duke's works, though out of the course of my present journey, as they gave birth to that great canal which I mentioned to fall into the Trent, near Cavendish Bridge. Of this I shall say a little more. It was set on foot in 1765 by earl Gower, and many other gentlemen of Staffordshire, and the neighbouring counties, under the direction of Mr. Brindley and Mr. Smeaton. The first estimate was 101,000*l.* afterwards enlarged to more than 150,000*l.* which was raised without difficulty. This canal extends from the Mersey to the Trent, communicating with the duke of Bridgewater's, and passes by or near Northwich, Middlewich, Burslem, Newcastle, Trentham, Stone, Stafford, and Burton, to Cavendish Bridge, besides having cuts to Litchfield and Birmingham, and is 28 feet broad, and four feet and a half deep in general. At Harecastle, in Staffordshire, on the borders of Cheshire, a tunnel twelve feet high, and eight or ten feet wide, is cut through a great hill more than a mile in length. Half a mile on each side this hill the canal is of an extraordinary dimension, which will be a reservoir for the water that flows out of the hill in great abundance, both ways, falling north and south. The expence of this cut was estimated at 10,000*l.* of the canal from the Trent to Harecastle, 700*l.* a mile, and from Harecastle to the other termination, 1000*l.* a mile.

From Cavendish Bridge, it is eight miles to Derby; this town furnishes several matters well worthy observation. It stands on the river Derwent, and has a very spacious market-place, in which is the town-hall, where the assizes are held, and an assembly room, lately furnished in an handsome manner by the duke of Devonshire. The tower of All Saints church, built in the time of Henry VIII., is lofty, and of excellent architecture. The body, which was rebuilt by Gibbs about 50 years ago, is large and uncommonly handsome. The iron screen before the communion-table, the work of a man now living, is of great lightness and beauty. A grave-stone, with the date of MCCCC, for John Lowe, a clergyman of this church, was lately dug up*. The monuments of the Cavendishes have no beauty in them, but one of them is for a most remarkable lady, Elizabeth, countess of Shrewsbury, who erected it in her life time. She was daughter of John Hardwick, esq. of Hardwick, in this county, and at length became co-heir to her brother. She was married very young, in the reign of Henry VIII., to a gentleman of the name of Barley, who died without issue, and left her a very considerable estate. She then married sir William Cavendish, who by his fidelity to Cardinal Wolsey in his fall, recommended himself to Henry VIII.; by him she had three sons, and surviving him, married sir William St. Lo, and becoming again a widow, had

* This church was collegiate, and at the suppression was valued at 38*l.* 14*s.* Mon. v. i. 1039. There was also a nunnery here, and some small foundations besides.

for her fourth husband George Talbot, earl of Shrewsbury. On each of the last marriages she took care to have large estates settled on her and her heirs; and having no issue by any of her husbands, except sir William Cavendish, those estates, as well as her own, centered in her son William, created baron Cavendish, of Hardwick, and afterwards, by James I., earl of Devonshire. She founded and endowed well an hospital near the east end of the church, for twelve poor people, which has lately been rebuilt by the duke in an handsome manner.

Whether her former husbands led very easy lives with her, does not appear; but Camden, as quoted by Dugdale, tells us that the earl of Shrewsbury fared badly. In speaking of him, he says, that "in those ambiguous times (i. e. Queens Mary and Elizabeth) he so preserved himself against all outward machinations, calumnies at court, *and the mischievous practices of his second wife*, for full fifteen years, as that he thereby deserved no less honour for his fidelity and prudence, than he did for his fortitude and valour*."

In the last rebellion the Pretender pushed forward as far as this town, and kept his court in a house belonging to Lord Exeter, the back of which looks towards the river; but meeting with a cold reception in England, he returned towards Scotland.

The famous silk mill on the river here, was erected in 1719 by sir Thomas Lombe, who brought the model out of Italy, where one of this sort was used, but kept guarded with great care. It was with the utmost hazard, and at a great expence of time and money, that he effected it. There are near 100,000 movements, turned by a single wheel, any one of which may be stopped independent of the rest. Every time this wheel goes round, which is three times in a minute, it works 73,728 yards of silk. By this mill the raw silk brought from Valencia in Spain, Italy, or China, is prepared for the warp. At one end of this building is a mill on the old plan, used before this improvement was made, where the silk is fitted, in a coarser manner, for the shoot. These mills employ about 200 persons of both sexes, and of all ages, to the great relief and advantage of the poor. The money given by strangers is put into a box, which is opened the day after Michaelmas Day, and a feast is made; an ox is killed, liquor prepared, the windows are illuminated, and the men, women and children employed in the work, dressed in their best array, enjoy in dancing and decent mirth, a holiday, the expectation of which lightens the labour of the rest of the year. It is customary for the inhabitants of the town, and any strangers who may be there, to see the entertainment; and the pleasure marked in the happy countenances of these people is communicated to the spectators, and contributes to the provision for the ensuing year.

The china manufactory is not less worthy of notice. Under the care of Mr. Duesberry, it does honour to this country. Indefatigable in his attention, he has brought the gold and the blue to a degree of beauty never before obtained in England, and the drawing and colouring of the flowers are truly elegant. About seventy hands are employed in it, and happily, many very young, are enabled to earn a livelihood in the business.

Another work is carried on here, which, though it does not employ so many hands, must not be passed without observation. The marbles, spars and petrifications, which abound in this county, take a fine polish, and from their great variety, are capable of being rendered extremely beautiful. Two persons are engaged in this business, and make vases, urns, pillars, columns, &c. as ornaments for chimney-pieces, and even chimney-pieces themselves.

* Dugd. Bar. v. i. p. 333.

A mile above Derby is Little Chester, the *Derventio* of the Romans. It was of the same size as Manceter, 120 paces long, 80 broad. Within the wall, in what are now pastures, foundations of houses have been found, wells curbed with good stone, coins, and earthen pipes. Remains of a bridge are said to have been seen near this place. A little beyond it is Darley Hall, a handsome house, the seat of Mr. Holden, to which there is a pleasant walk from the town. At this place there was a monastery of canons regular of the order of St. Augustin, founded in the time of Henry the by Hugh the priest, dean of Derby, who gave to Albinus, and his canons of St. Helen's, near Derby, all his land at Little Derby, to make there a church and habitation for him and his canons*. The priory of Derby, founded by Robert Ferrers, earl of Derby, temp. H. II. was translated hither†. At the suppression it was valued at 258l. 14s. 5d.‡ Some part of the walls are to be seen in an outhouse, and in some cottages, and a building belonging to the mill below.

Though it is not doubted that the Romans had a station at Little Chester, yet there has been much doubt whether there was any road from thence to Chesterfield, or whether the latter was a station§. It was reserved for the industry and ingenuity of Mr. Pegge to ascertain these facts, the latter of which he seems to have done very clearly. He states the road to come out of Staffordshire, over Eggington-heath, by Little-over, Nun-green, and down Darley-slade, to the river, where was the bridge; he traces it over Morley-moor, by Horsley park; near a Roman camp on Pentrich common to Okerthorp; near Kendall's inn at Alfreton, Shirland-hall, Higham, through Stretton (the name of which bespeaks its situation on a road), Clay-cross, Egstew farm, and Tupton-moor; from thence it points to sir Henry Hunloke's avenue, and directly to Chesterfield. Mr Pegge particularly describes several places where it was very visible in 1760 for a considerable length together, between Little Chester and Tupton-moor, but can trace it no further, the country having been long in tillage. He guesses the station at Chesterfield to have been Topton, or Topton-hill||.

About two miles and a half from Derby, in the road to Buxton, is Kedleston, the seat of lord Scarfdale, which may properly be called the glory of Derbyshire, eclipsing Chatsworth, the ancient boast of the county. It was built from the designs of Mr. Robert Adam. The front is magnificent and beautiful, the apartments elegant, and at the same time useful, a circumstance not always to be met with in a great house. It is the ancient seat of the Curzon's a family of great antiquity, wealth, and interest in this county. This house has been built by the present lord (created lord Scarfdale in 1761) partly on the spot where the old house stood, but the ground has been so much altered, that there is no resemblance of what it was. In the front stood a village with a small inn for the accommodation of those who came to drink of a medicinal well, which has the virtues of the Harrowgate water¶; a rivulet turned a water-mill, and the high road went by the gate. The village is removed (not destroyed, as is too often done) the road is thrown to a considerable distance, out of sight of the house, the scanty stream is increased into a large piece of water, and the ground disposed in the finest order.

The entrance from the turnpike road is through a grove of noble and venerable oaks (something hurt by a few small circular clumps of firs planted amongst them)

* Dugd. Mon. v. ii. p. 230.

§ Salmon's Survey, p. 540.

¶ This is the strongest sulphur water in Derbyshire at the spring head, but will not bear carriage.

† Dugd. Bar. v. i. p. 259.

|| Roman Roads in Derbyshire investigated.

‡ Mon. v. i. p. 1039.

after which, crossing a fine lawn, and passing the water by an elegant stone bridge, of three arches, a gentle ascent leads to the house.

The front, built of white stone, is extensive; in the centre is a flight of steps, leading to a portico, consisting of six Corinthian pillars, three feet in diameter, which support a pediment decorated with statues. On each side a corridor connects a pavilion with the body of the house, forming the two wings, the whole front being 360 feet. The steps lead into a magnificent hall, behind which is a circular saloon. On the left are a music-room, drawing-room, and library, and at the end of the corridor, the private apartments of lord and lady Scarisdale, and their young family. On the right of the hall are the dining-room, state dressing-room, and bed-chamber, and another dressing-room, the kitchen, and offices.

On each side of the hall are eight fluted pillars of variegated marble of the country, and two at each end, of the Corinthian order, 25 feet high, two feet six inches in diameter. This room is 60 feet by 30 within the columns, 67 feet three inches by 42 within the walls, 47 to the top of the window; between the columns are fine antique statues in niches, over which are basso relievos in compartments, crowned with festoons; the ceiling covered and richly ornamented with paintings and relievos in the antique taste; in the centre is a window, by which the whole receives light. The pannels of the doors are of the paper manufacture of Mr. Clay, of Birmingham, highly varnished, and the paintings well executed.

The saloon is 42 feet diameter, 54 feet 6 inches high, 24 feet 6 inches to the cornice, crowned with a dome, which lights the room. Over the doors are four paintings by Morland, and there are some statues in niches.

The music-room is 36 feet by 24, and 22 high. In this room is the triumph of Bacchus, a large and capital piece by Luca Giordani, a fine head by Rembrandt, and other pieces by Bassan, Horizonti, &c.

From this room a corridor, hung with elegant prints, leads to the family apartments. The breakfast-room is painted from the antique in the baths of Dioclesian.

The grand drawing-room is 44 feet by 28, and 28 high, with a covered ceiling; the furniture blue damask. A Venetian window and four door-cases are ornamented with small Corinthian columns of alabaster. In this room, as indeed in all the others, are many capital pictures. Raphael, Claude, Guido, Cuyp, &c. are amongst the masters.

The library is of the same size and height as the music-room. In this room, over the chimney, is a piece of Rembrandt, which beggars all description. It is the story of Daniel brought before Nebuchadnezzar to interpret his dream, and contains eight or nine small whole length figures. The composed majesty of the king, who is seated in a chair of state; the astonishment and terror of his great men sitting near him; the earnestness of Daniel kneeling before him, and in short the whole piece is, beyond expression, striking.

From this room cross the saloon into the state dressing-room and bed-chamber, with a servant's room behind. The two former hung with blue damask, the bed of the same, with gold lace, supported by palm trees of mahogany, carved and gilt. The bedroom is 30 feet by 22, 20 high.

The dining-parlour is 36 feet by 24, 20 high, the ceiling adorned with paintings. The centre represents Love embracing Fortune, by Morland; four circles, by Zucchi, represent the four quarters of the world; and four squares, by Hamilton, the four seasons. The corridor on this side, which is used as a chapel, leads to a gallery overlooking

looking the kitchen, which is 48 feet by 24, and lofty, with this significant motto over the chimney, "Waste not, Want not."

The principal stair-case, leading out of the hall to the attic story at this end, conducts to eight apartments for visitors, most, if not all of which, have a bed-room, dressing-room, and servant's room.

The church, which is not at all seen in the approach, stands close to the west end of the house; the old pun of "wee shall" remains on the "dye-all."

From the principal front of the house, which is the north, the eye is conducted by a beautiful slope to the water, which is seen tumbling down a cascade, encircling an island planted with firs, and at the bridge falling over rough rocks, and then forming a large river, on which is a yatch. Below is a small rustic building over the well and bath, which are used by many persons, who are accommodated at an inn, built by his lordship in the road, and from which a pleasant walk through the park leads to the bath.

In the back front of the house is the pleasure-ground, stretching up to the edge of the rising ground, on which is a fine and extensive plantation, beginning to shew itself in great beauty. The walk is about three miles in the whole.

Of all the houses I ever saw, I do not recollect any one which so completely pleased me as this did, and the uncommon politeness and attention of the housekeeper who shewed it, added not a little to the entertainment.

Go out of the park the same way, and turning on the left, go by Weston, Ayrton, and Wirksworth, to Matlock. From Weston, turning off to Ayrton, the road is good, and the country beautiful; the inclosures on the sides of the hills, which run in all directions, some in corn, some in pasture, form a very pleasing scene. From Ayrton to Wirksworth the road is very indifferent, but I believe it would have proved better if I had gone forward after passing Ayrton, instead of turning, as I did, on the right.

There is another way by Duffield, which leads into the turnpike-road from Derby to Matlock, by turning on the left on leaving the park, and then taking the first road on the right; but neither of these are good for a carriage, and the best way is to go back towards Derby into the turnpike road.

Pass through Duffield, a village where was formerly one of the castles of Robert Ferrers, earl of Derby, which he held against Henry II. but was compelled to surrender it, and it was demolished*. Whether there is any vestige of it now I do not know. There was then a forest called Duffield forest†.

Soon after coming on this turnpike, begin to ascend the hills, which are in general barren on the outside, marked with heaps of rubbish thrown out by the miners, but interspersed with some pleasant dales and woods.

This road leaves Wirksworth on the left, which is a pretty large town in a bottom, where is a great market for lead, and a hall is built for holding the miners' courts. This manor, with that of Ashburn, was given by King John to William Ferrers, earl of Derby, whose descendant Robert lost this and all his other great estates by his reiterated perfidy to Henry III. who at length seized them, and gave them to his son Edmund Crouchback, earl of Lancaster, from whom this descended to John of Gaunt, duke of Lancaster‡, and now remains part of that duchy. Here was formerly a very pleasant and pure warm spring, but in digging for lead they lost it, and have now two warm brooks, being old floughs made to drain the water from their works, which bring down small lead, though the works have been ended many years, and are not fit

* Dugd. Bar. v. i. p. 259.

† Arch. v. ii. p. 278.

‡ Arch. v. ii. p. 285.

for drinking*. There are two chalybeate springs here, one in a meadow called Fishpool-flat, which is like Pyrmont water†. The rocks begin hereabouts to shew themselves in a thousand romantic shapes.

At the bottom of a long hill, called Cromford, is a village of the same name; a large handsome inn was built here in 1778. The right hand road goes to Nottingham, the left to Matlock, crossing a little stream that comes from Bonsal in its way to the Derwent, which it falls into just below, after turning a mill for spinning cotton, invented by one Mr. Arkwright, who has a patent for it, and in conjunction with some other persons, carries on the business with great advantage to himself and the neighbourhood. It employs about 200 persons, chiefly children; and to make the most of the term for which the patent was granted, they work by turns, night and day. Another mill, as large as the first, is building here, new houses are rising round it, and every thing wears the face of industry and chearfulness. A third is built at Bakewell, another at Calver. Mr. Arkwright was bred a barber, but true genius is superior to all difficulties, even those of education, and happily he found men of spirit to supply that money which he wanted to carry his schemes into execution. The undertaking amply repays them for their confidence.

The manor of Matlock, with those of Bonsal, Wirksworth, and many others, were part of the great estate of the Ferrers, earls of Derby; and in 36 Henry III. earl William obtained a charter of free warren in them, amongst others‡.

How different is the appearance of this place now, from what it was some years ago, when it was only noticed by the traveller as "the habitation of a few grovers, who dug for lead ore, and whose huts were not bigger than hogsties!"§ And yet, beautiful as it is now, that description was then a true one. The grandfather of a man whom I saw in 1780, worked at the first building over the old bath, and no carriage had then ever passed through the dale; indeed none could have passed, the rocks at that time extending too near the edge of the river. The waters became known about the year 1698, when the bath was built and paved by the reverend Mr. Fern, of Matlock, and Mr. Heyward||, of Cromford, and put into the hands of George Wragg, who to confirm his title, took a lease of it of the several lords of the manor for ninety-nine years, paying them a fine of 150*l.* and an annual rent of sixpence a-piece. He then built a few small rooms adjoining to the bath, which were but a poor convenience for strangers; but his lease and property were sold about the year 1730, to Mr. Smith and Mr. Pennell, of Nottingham, for near one thousand pounds. They erected two large commodious buildings, with stables, coach-house, &c. made a coach-road along the river side from Cromford, and opened a better horse-way from the bath to Matlock-bridge, which is now made a very good turnpike road. Mr. Pennell afterwards bought Mr. Smith's part, and dying about 1733, left it to his daughter. It is now the joint property of several persons¶.

The bath is twenty yards above the river, and from it to the top of the rocks on the west side of the house is 120 yards perpendicular, where stand some small cottages. From these are several grass closes on another ascent, which afterwards becomes steep and rugged, and rises almost to a level with the top of Masson, whose summit is 250 yards above the Derwent. On the north and west sides of the bath rise Westupshills, twenty yards above the High Torr, on the lower and south part of which is a small

* Short, Pref. p. 14.

§ England's Gazetteer.

† Ib. p. 276.

|| Short, p. 80.

‡ Dugd. Bar. v. i. p. 262.

¶ By Fahrenheit's thermometer, the temperature of common water is 48°, Matlock bath 68°, Buxton bath 82°, vital heat 96°, King's bath, at Bath, 114°, boiling water 212°. *Whitehurst's Theory*, p. 109.

grove, with dry meadows, houses, mines, &c. and above these is a rugged, stony ascent, on the top of which proud Masson raises his lofty head, about one hundred fathoms above the summit of Matlock High Torr. On the west side of the bath is another steep and almost inaccessible ascent of crags and rocks, above which are some houses and inclosures, and at the top of them a plain, commanding a very large prospect, except on the north side, where it is bounded by Masson*. From this plain are seen some parts of Staffordshire and Cheshire, with several towns, villages, &c.

All the warm waters spring up from between 15 and 30 yards above the level of the river; higher or lower the springs are cold, and only common water. There are several warm springs, besides a current of warm water from a mine called Balls-eye, which was a natural grotto formerly filled with ore, and produced very great quantities of lead.

All along this course of warm waters, from their first eruption down to the river, are vast heaps of petrification†, which are soft before they are exposed to the air, and very light, but afterwards turn to a smoaky blue colour, become very hard, and are used in building. Any strong acid dropt on them, raised a great fermentation, and turns them to jelly‡. Whilst the waters retain their warmth and motion, few or no petrifications are found, but when they begin to lose their warmth and motion, the petrifications are found.

All the warm waters dropping from the roofs of small grottoes hereabouts, form little pillars or prisms of various shapes, such as bones of all sorts, hartshorns, corals, and faint representations of some parts of animals§; but those above ground form another sort of petrifications, by incrustation at first, but it afterwards destroys the body on which it is gathered, retaining the perfect shape of it, as mosses, grass, leaves, sticks, &c. There is a notion that the petrifying quality is not so strong now as it used to be.

The Bath water, and all these tepid springs, are very clear, and have no steam except in a cold morning, or in winter; nor do they throw up great bubbles of air like the Buxton waters||, which contain more sulphur and mineral spirit¶.

These waters are lighter than Bristol water by near a grain in a pint, and are good in hectic fevers, want of appetite, and many other cases**.

Two miles south-west, is Middleton Bath, which rises close by the south side of Bonsal brook, at the foot of a very high, steep mountain, one mile from Middleton, two from Wirksworth; it is 16 yards long, seven broad, and two deep. It is continually bubbling up with great force, and immediately empties itself into the brook. It is chiefly used to cure mangey horses and dogs, but is fit to be employed to much greater purposes††.

The entrance of Matlock Dale from Cromford, is by a passage cut through the rock, which makes a very striking appearance. From hence it is about a mile to the bath,

* Short, p. 71, 72.

† Ibid. p. 74.

‡ Ibid. p. 86.

§ Ibid. p. 77.

|| Ibid. p. 81.

¶ Ibid. p. 88.

** Ibid. p. 91.

†† Ibid. p. 92.

Dr. Percival has given the following comparative view of the different temperatures of Bath, Buxton, Bristol, and Matlock waters, measured by Fahrenheit's thermometer.

Bath—King's bath pump	112°
Hot-bath pump	114½
Cross-bath pump	110°
Bristol Hot-well pump	76°
Buxton Bath	82°
St. Ann's well	81°
Matlock Baths	68°
Spring	66°

See his experiments on the waters of Buxton and Matlock.



Drawn by E. Goodwin.

Engraved by George Cooke.

Matlock High-Torr.

London, Published by Longman, Hurst, Rees & Orme, Paternoster Row Dec. 1808.

the road running by the side of the river, and the dale being in some parts so narrow, that there is little more than room for the road between the river on one hand, and the rocks on the other. In some places it spreads to a greater width; in all, it is a most romantic and beautiful ride. The river is sometimes hid behind trees, sometimes it glides smooth and calm, sometimes a distant fall is heard; here it tumbles over a ledge of rocks, stretching quite across, there it rushes over rude fragments, torn by storms from the impending masses. Each side, but particularly the farther one, is bordered by lofty rocks, generally clothed with wood, in the most picturesque manner. In many places where they seem to be quite perpendicular, and without any earth on them, underwood, ash, and other trees shoot up, growing to the common height.

At Matlock are two baths, the old and the new; the new is the first, is a handsome house, and the situation is much pleasanter than that of the other, but the old is much the largest house, and most frequented. Each of them has a bath. The company dine together in a large room at two, and sup at eight, after which there is music for those who choose dancing, or cards for those who prefer them. The charge for dinner is one shilling, and the same for supper; every one drinks what he likes.

A little way from the old bath, a boatman is ready to ferry over to the other side of the river, where he has made a walk on the bank, through the wood at the foot of the rocks, as far as the mouth of a lead mine, drained by an engine, which is worked by the river. In this walk two little streamlets are seen on the opposite side, hastening down the bank. One of them falls from a considerable height, but would have a better effect if the regular steps over which it tumbles, were taken away. Returning towards the landing place is an ascent to the top of the rock by about 220 steps, besides several gradual slopes; this is so well managed by different turnings, that though the rock is here almost perpendicular, little difficulty is found in gaining the summit; and the wood grows so close to the edge of the path, that there is no room for the least apprehension of danger. About half way up is a seat overlooking the river and country. At the top is a fine pasture ground, sloping from the very edge of the rock down to a little valley, where a small bend of the river is seen, though from the situation of the ground, it appears to be a different one from that which you left below.

Turning to the right a rustic bench is found, from whence is a full view of the whole of that scenery, of which different parts had presented themselves before. A blind path across the inclosures, leads from hence to the cotton-mill.

Between the bath and the village of Matlock, the ride is equally romantic with the entrance of the dale; but in one place the rock, from its superior height and boldness, has acquired the name of Matlock great or high Torr. It is said the perpendicular height is 140 yards. About half way up it is covered with underwood, without any great trees; the upper part is perpendicular, and almost entirely bare, only here and there is a small tree hanging out of a crevice. The river runs close at the foot, and by the intervention of a ledge of stone, forms a considerable cascade. The strata of stone here exactly correspond with those, on the opposite side of the vale; a proof that some violent convulsion has rent them asunder*.

A little beyond this is the village; the houses scattered on the side of the hills and in the bottom, the bridge, the church, standing single, near the edge of a high rock, yet sheltered by trees, the meadows, the moving machinery of an engine for draining a mine here, and the barren hills in the Lointain, form altogether a most picturesque and delightful view.

* Whitehurst, p. 153.

About a mile from Matlock bridge, is a scene fit for the pencil of a Salvator Rosa. Take the road to Chesterfield, and at the turnpike go off on the right, over a common scattered with large grey stones, when a smelting house called the Lumbs, is soon seen.

It stands on a point, from which the water falls a great height over the rudest rocks, and has worn a deep hollow, covered with fragments of stone, some of them very large, between which the current finds its way. At the bottom is a little mill, turned by a small branch of the stream, which is conducted by a channel made for that purpose. A little above this mill is the station for seeing the fall.

At this smelting house red lead is made by burning common lead a sufficient time, by which it is reduced in weight as much as 200 or 300 pound in a ton. On the stones in the common I saw a little of the rock moss, which is found plentifully at Dolgelly, in Merionethshire, and carried from thence to Dublin, where it is used as a red dye.

Near Matlock bridge are two chalybeate springs, one by the side of the road to Bakewell, on the right hand rising the hill; the other, which is stronger, is under a bank in the road to Alfreton, by the side of the little stream which comes down from the smelting mill, mentioned above.

In the way to Bonsal some pieces of water have been lately formed by dams across the little stream, which runs down that bottom, and on one of them a large corn-mill is built.

There is a pleasant ride on the road to Nottingham, the river being on the right, and much wood on the sides of the hills.

On the top of the hill called Riber, which is above the church, is a stone, said to have been formerly a rocking stone, called in Cornwall a Logan-stone, but it is not moveable now; it has a round hole in the top, exactly resembling one which Dr. Borlase, in his antiquities of Cornwall, has given a print of, plate XI. fig. 4. It is not very large, and is placed on two other stones.

At Birchover (pronounced Bircher) are some very large rocking stones, called Routar-stones, in a most extraordinary situation, well worth visiting. The best way is to go through Winster, keeping the church on the left, when a road up the steep side of a hill on the right leads to Bircher, a small village, at the farther end of which are these stones in an inclosure*. They are a most wonderful assemblage of rocks, or rather huge stones, piled on one another, forming a hill, which runs in length for seventy yards, or more, from east to west, the north side and west end being nearly perpendicular. You go up at the east end by a moderate ascent, when prodigious masses of stone present themselves, and a passage about six feet high appears, which formerly went under part of them, and came out on the north side, but the middle of it is now fallen in. On the north side, you find some immense stones, which form a kind of alcove, seeming as if scooped out for that purpose. Going up to the higher part are two rocking stones, which can be moved by the hand; one of them, supposed to weigh 50 ton, rests on two points of less than a foot diameter each, but there is now earth and grass collected, which cover the stone on which they rest, yet not so as to prevent its being moveable. On the highest stone of all, a round pillar of three joints, with a weather-cock at the top, has been let into such a hole as that which appears in the stone on Riber, mentioned above†. On the north side of one of the upper stones, towards the west end of the

* These must be what are slightly mentioned by Stukeley, without ascertaining the place; he speaks of two tumuli on the edges of opposite hills on entering the Peak country, and a hermitage by a great rock, called Ratcliff, on the back of which stones are set up two and two, forming a celtic avenue.

† Mr. Rooke says, this is a rock-bason, and that there are others here, Arch. v. vi. p. 111. where are several views of these rocks.

hill, a chair is cut, with two arms of very rude workmanship, and a seat for one person on each side of it. One of the uppermost stones measures 37 feet, or more, in length.

When seated in this chair, you see towards the right a single stone on an opposite hill; called the Eandle, or Anvil-stone; and to the right of that another, called Thomas's Chair; on this last there was a few years ago, a stone cut in shape of a chair, with a seat on each side, but it is now thrown down. Looking to the left, on the points of a high crag, are two upright stones, called Robinhood's Stride; a little to the right of them, at the other end of the range, terminating in a heap of loose stones, is Cratcliff Torr; south of Robinhood's Stride is Bradley, or Bradwell Torr, where is another shaking stone. This last is probably that which Dr. Borlase says he had heard of, as being four yards high, and twelve round. Of the two at Routar, he says, the largest is computed to weigh at least twenty ton, and it is on a karn twenty feet high*.

At the foot of Routar, on the south side, is a house called Routar-hall, once the habitation of a gentleman's family, lately belonging to Mr. Eyre, of Derby, from whom it descended to the present lady Massareene, his daughter; there is also a small chapel. From this house there is a way up to these stones, where part of them is seen in a most extraordinary position; the highest heap of them here forms a face to the west, where they hang over one another almost without support, in the manner of that described by Dr. Borlase in plate XI. fig. 5, but much larger. The guide would make you believe that the sacrifices were performed here, and that the marks of fire are still visible on these stones. I cannot say I could see it. The north side at this end consists of vast masses, piled on one another in the same manner, small stones seeming to have been put in to support the large ones. The heap goes further towards the west, but less high, and is terminated by a single square stone placed on some others.

It seems incredible that these stones should have been brought and placed here by any human art, as no engines now known would be equal to the task of bringing and placing them in the position in which they are now seen. Yet when one considers Stone-henge, which is beyond doubt the work of art; when we hear what masses of solid stone were carried to Palmyra, and raised to a great height, one cannot say it is impossible that this should be the work of human hands. Dr. Borlase observes†, that the ancients had powers of moving vast weights, of which we have now no idea; whatever knowledge was possessed, was possessed by the Druids, and they are supposed to have had so absolute a command of the people‡, that nothing would be wanting to effect what they might design. There are other certain marks of their having been in this neighbourhood. But, after all, may not this heap be the effect of that convulsion which has left such astonishing marks of its violence in this country; and might not the Druids, finding the stones here remove the surrounding earth, and use them as a place of religious worship, taking advantage of the uncommon circumstance of such large stones being moveable by so small a force, to make the multitude believe they were invested with supernatural powers?

Dr. Borlase describes a Tolmên in Cornwall, and another in Scilly, to consist of a large orbicular stone, supported by two stones, between which there is a passage, and says they are both in the decline of hills, beneath a large karn of rocks, standing on two natural supporters: he adds afterwards, "Another thing is worthy of our notice

* Antiquities of Cornwall, p. 182.

† Ibid. p. 175.

‡ Rowland's Mona Antiqua, p. 67.

in this kind of monuments, which is, that underneath these vast stones, there is a hole or passage between the rocks :'' whether this was used as a sanctuary for an offender to fly to, or introduce proselytes, novices, people under vows, or about to sacrifice into their more sublime mysteries, he does not determine*.

The stones on Routar do not seem to answer the description of a Tolmên, but that on Bradley Torr does ; the passage, however, might be for a similar purpose.

Cratcliff presents a broad and very lofty perpendicular front of stones, wonderfully large, facing Winster and Elton ; some of the upper ones are worn on the edges, as if jagged, and many of them are marked with seams, probably occasioned by the rain washing away the softer parts : Mr. Rooke says there are four rock-basons on the top. At the western end is a small cave in the rock, open to the south, which was formerly the habitation of a hermit. At the east end of it the figure of our Saviour on the cross was carved on the stone, and great part of it is still remaining. On the left of it is a niche. Facing the entrance was a seat, hewed out of the rock. A bed-place seems to have been separated from the rest, the holes remaining in which the posts were probably placed.

On the same range of hill, two stones standing upright in a direct line from one another, have got the name of Robinhood's Stride ; they are also called Mock-beggar-hall, from the resemblance they have to chimnies at each end of a mansion-house, and which, on the north side particularly, might induce the poor traveller to make up to it in hopes of refreshment. Still more west of this, is another craggy rock, which, from the road to Elton, seems to hang almost without support.

About half a mile to the north of these rocks, on Hartle-moor, or Stanton-moor, is a circle of nine upright stones, called the Nine Ladies ; a little west of this is a single stone, called the King ; near this are several cairns, some of which have been opened, and bones found in them†.

On Bircher-moor, towards Bakewell, I was told there is a similar circle, but the stones not so high as in the other‡.

Going towards Elton, the guide shewed me the top of what he called a pillar of eighteen or twenty feet in height, appearing between the Eandle-stone and Thomas's Chair, towards Bakewell ; but at Bakewell I could not get any information about it.

About 200 yards north from the Nine Ladies, and a quarter of a mile west of the little valley which separates Hartle-moor from Stanton-moor, Mr. Rooke describes a circular work called Castle Ring. It has a deep ditch and double vallum ; the entrance is very visible on the south-east side, where part of the vallum has been levelled by the plough. The diameter from N. E. to S. W. is 143 feet, from S. E. to N. W. 165 feet. As no coins or Roman utensils have been found near it, he says there seems to be grounds to suppose it a British, not Roman encampment. Some give it to the Danes, who secured themselves some time in Derbyshire, after they had driven out the Saxons, but its vicinity to many Druidical remains, seem to speak it British.

This gentlemen also mentions three remarkable stones, called Cat-stones, on the east side of Stanton-moor, at the edge of a declivity, looking over Darley Dale ; and another near them, called Gorse-stone, derived from the British word Gorfed-dau, which

* Antiquities of Cornwall, p. 174, 176.

† Mr. Rooke says, there was found with bones a large blue glass bead, with orifices not larger than the tip of a tobacco-pipe

‡ Mr. Rooke mentions this as being on Hartle-moor, half a mile west of the Nine Ladies, and having now only six stones.

Dr. Borlase mentions as a place of elevation used by the Druids from whence they used to pronounce their decrees. He gives also a plan of a small circular work in the middle of Stanton-moor, 16 yards diameter, and some remarkable rocks near the village of Stanton.

These things my miserable guide gave me no information of when I was there.

On the commons of Winster are several barrows, chiefly of stone, but one of earth was opened about the year 1768, when there were found in it two glass vessels, between eight and ten inches in height, containing about a pint of water, of a light green colour, and very limpid. With these was found a silver collar, or bracelet, and other small ornaments, and one of filligree work, of gold, or silver gilt, and set with garnets, or red glass. There were also several square and round beads, of various colours, of glass and earth, and some small remains of brass, like clasps and hinges, and pieces of wood, as if of a little box in which the ornaments had been deposited*.

From Matlock there are many excursions to be made. That to Roulton, which I have just mentioned; to Dovedale, and Mr. Porte's, at Ilam; to Haddon-hall, Bakewell, Mr. Eyre's, at Hassop, and Monsal Dale; to Hardwick-hall; to Chatsworth, and from thence by Middleton Dale to Castleton, in the high Peak, and so to Tideswell and Buxton.

The road to Dovedale is by Middleton, leaving Wirksworth on the left; through Brassington, Bradburn, and Tissington, into the turnpike-road from Bakewell to Ashbourn, about two miles and a half from the last place, coming into it at a little public-house called the Dog and Partridge; but the traveller must not depend on this house for refreshment. The road to Dovedale goes off the turnpike by this house: passing a church on the left, and two or three cottages on the right, you turn on the right into a field, where there is no other track than what is made by the summer visitors; yet in the lower part of this, on the left, the entrance of the dale will be easily found.

Before I enter on a description of Dovedale, I must mention that at Brassington there is in a large pasture a rock, called Rainster, spreading something like a turkey-cock's tail. On the moor, on the right, is a rocky hill, called Harbury, from whence you see to a great distance. The moor is covered with rocks of a rough, ragged stone. On this common, some years ago, a Kyst-vaen was discovered by a farmer, who cut through the barrow to get stone; he broke part of the lid, but found it so troublesome that he desisted, and the rest of it remained perfect, and was visited by the gentleman from whom I had this information. I believe this is the same as is now to be seen on the top of Miningle-low, near Brassington common, between Newhaven and Winster. On this spot were several, three of them are now remaining, but partly hid by a plantation of trees, which is surrounded by a wall. They consist of large perpendicular stones set into the ground, and appearing some more, some less above the surface, some close together, others not so, and on the top of them is laid one large flat stone. The most perfect is about nine feet in length, and on the north east side there is room enough to go down into it. Another less perfect is 13 feet in length.

To return to Dovedale; the walk between the rocks begins at a point, where the river Dove turns a corner of the projecting hills, one of which (on the left) is very lofty, and is called Thorpe Cloud. Here the horses must be left. Following the course of the stream, you come to the upper part of the dale, called Mill-dale, where there is a little public-house by a bridge, which leads towards Alstonfield, and the great copper-

* Arch. v. iii. p. 274.

mine of the duke of Devonshire, called Ecton-mine. If you mean to go thither, a guide must be got to take the horses round to the bridge.

Dovedale is in every part deep and narrow, the river running sometimes close to the rocks on one side, sometimes on the other, often barely leaving a foot-path. These rocks, on both sides the water, are of grey limestone, of every wild and grotesque variety of height and shape. Sometimes they stand single, like the fragments of a wall, or the tower of an old castle; sometimes they rise from a broad base in a kind of pyramid, at others, slender like a pinnacle; sometimes plain and perpendicular; sometimes huge masses hang on the upper part, almost without support, and seem to threaten destruction to any one who ventures beneath them. Yew, ash, whiteleaf, and other trees, grow out of the crevices, scattered in various parts, in one place forming a thick wood from the bottom to the top. Wood-pigeons, and a great number of hawks are found here; and there is a rabbit-warren, in which 3500 couple are taken in a year, the skins of which sell for about eight shillings a dozen.

After going up a little way, there is on the right a large natural arch in a rock, which stands out single, and has the appearance of a wall; this leads to a cavern in the rock behind, called Reynard's-hall, and to another called his kitchen.

Towards the upper end is another large arch and a cavern, called Foxholes. Beyond this, a turn on the right leads to a farm-house, called Hanson Grange, but the stream will lead to Mill-dale. The rocks continue some distance further, and then are lost by degrees, a fragment peeping out here and there after the chain is discontinued.

The Dove rises near Buxton, in the parish of Alstonfield, is here of various width, very clear, deep in some few places, but generally shallow, runs rapidly, and has many small falls, but none of consequence; the bed of it is sometimes overgrown with weeds, and the sides often so, which takes off much of its beauty. It here parts the counties of Derby and Stafford. Poachers take from five to twenty pounds weight of trout or grayling at a time, and carry them to Buxton or Matlock, where they sell them for six-pence or eight-pence a pound. Cray-fish are also taken here.

On the top of the road, opposite the Foxholes, cockles, perriwinkles, and other sea-shells are found; shells are also found petrified in the rocks, in several places. On the hill in the road from Ilam to Wetton, they are digging a crumbly red grit-stone, almost entirely composed of cockle and other shells. On a hill opposite Reynard's-hall, in an old mine, a few entrochi are found in the stone; and in the wood beyond is a vein of ruddle, or red ochre, in chinks of the rocks, which is used to mark sheep with, and it will not easily wash out. In it are found crystals of a coarse red colour, of five points, less perfect than those found at Buxton, but harder. Lava is said to be seen about Thorpe cloud, and in other parts of the dale. From this hill the rocks on the opposite side of the river assume new shapes, and their shadows projected by the setting sun have a fine effect.

This scene is romantic and wild, with more of the sublime than the beautiful; but no one of curiosity who is in this part of the country can omit seeing it.

There is a way to go into this dale at the head of it, by going to Hanson Grange, which stands at one entrance, or to Mill-dale at another; but it cannot be found without a guide, who may be taken from Tiffington, where is a seat of the very ancient family of Fitzherbert*. If this is preferred, the horses must be sent round to meet you at coming out, if it is intended to go to Ashbourn.

* The author of the famous law-book, called *Natura Brevium*, was of this family.

Leaving the dale, on going out of the field turn on the right to Mr. Porte's, at Ilam. His garden is in a bottom, surrounded by hills, and consists only of a walk round a meadow. The right hand hill is a rock, at the foot of which is the curiosity that attracts the traveller. The rivers Hamps and Manifold ingulph themselves at a considerable distance from hence, and from each other, the one near six, the other four, miles off; the one running north, the other west, yet they come out of the rock in this place within 10 yards of each other, the former from a hole of about four feet deep, the latter from one of 14. They presently join their streams, and receiving that current of the Manifold which runs above ground from Wetton-mill, when there is too much water to be received by the swallows there, run under the name of the Manifold into the Dove, at no great distance. Some have affected to doubt whether the streams which break out in the garden are really distinct ones, or only different branches of the same; but I was assured by a man of observation, that he has seen at different times one of them swelled by a sudden shower, the other remaining calm, and so of each of them. In this hilly country it is common for a heavy shower to fall in one place, when at a small distance it shall be fair weather.

In the rock above is a seat of which Congreve was very fond, and where it is said he wrote his *Old Bachelor*, a play thought at that time to be very witty. The opposite hill rises steep and high, and is covered with a hanging wood, at the foot of which is the channel filled by the Manifold, when the cavity in the rocks at Wetton-mill will not carry off all the water, but dry in a season of drought. In this channel (up to the mill) are stones which shew a vein of pyrites, the size of a knitting-needle, crossing the stones in various directions. It is said that no others of the sort are found in the neighbourhood. From the upper end of this meadow a conical hill is seen, flat at the top, as if the point was cut off. It seems to stand single, amongst a heap of rude, misshapen mountains, and forms a striking object.

In the garden is a curious engine for supplying the house with water, made by Mr. Chatterton, a very ingenious workman at Derby. There are two buckets which work themselves, one descending as the other rises, the full one emptying itself into a pipe, which conveys it to the house.

St. Bertram's well; his ash-tree growing over it, which the country people used to hold in great veneration, and think it dangerous to break a bough from; or his tomb in the church, which are mentioned by Plot*; I did not hear of it at the place.

About four miles from Ilam, in the way to Ecton-mine, is the village of Wetton, a mile from which is a mill, of which, and the rocks about it, Smith has engraved a view, amongst those he has given of this country. There is some scenery of rock and water, but it will scarce repay the trouble of a walk. In going to it you see on the left a large cavern in a high rock, but it has nothing to compensate the labor of going to, and descending from it. In the bottom, a little below the mill, the Manifold rushes into some chasms in the foot of the rock, and runs under ground till it rises in the garden at Ilam. The gardener proved the fact, by putting some corks into the river here, and fixing a net at the place of its emerging at Mr. Porte's, where he found them again.

Wetton is a very mean village, the inhabitants employed in mining. It is a poor vicarage of 20l. a-year, the church served about once a fortnight. This place belongs to the duke of Devonshire, and the land lets from 10 to 40 shillings an acre. The cart-

* Natural History of Staffordshire, p. 207, 409.

ing at Edton-mine is of much service to the farmers here, who earn a good deal of money by it.

That mine, which is a little beyond, is perhaps the richest copper mine in Europe. The hill in which it was found, is about 700 feet perpendicular in height. It was discovered about the year 1739, by a Cornish miner, who, passing over the hill, accidentally picked up a bit of the ore. The first adventurers, however, expended more than 13,000*l.* before they got any returns, and several of them gave it up; the second sett were more fortunate. After sinking a shaft of 200 yards deep, and driving an adit, they found great quantities of copper ore, which increased the lower they descended. At the end of their lease, the duke took it into his own hands, and for some years cleared eight or 10,000*l.* a-year; but in 1779 and 1780, the demand was so great on account of sheathing the men of war with it, (then first used,) that he worked it to the extent of 30,000*l.*

This mine in its position differs from any yet discovered in any quarter of the world. The copper does not run in regular courses or veins, but sinks perpendicularly down, widening and swelling out as it descends, in form of a bell.

The miners work six hours at a time for one shilling; women, by task, earn from 4*d.* to 8*d.* a-day; girls and boys from 2*d.* to 4*d.* A great number are employed*.

At the base of the hill is an adit, by which you may go a considerable way into the mountain, but to descend to the lower part requires a resolution which every one does not possess; and indeed it is a work of hazard to such as are not accustomed to that mode of travelling.

If too much of the day is taken up in this excursion, to return to Matlock with convenience, (which may be the case by going to Dovedale and Ilam only) very good accommodations may be had at Ashburn; and the celebrated picture of Raphael's, at Okeover, supposed to have been one of the collection of Charles I. may be seen the next morning.

The church of Ashburn was dedicated to St. Oswald, by Hugh de Patishull, bishop of Coventry, in 1241, as appears by an inscription on a brass plate, found on repairing the church some years ago†, which is as follows; Anno ab incarnatione Dni Mccxlviiiº ke Maij dedicati est hæc eccia & hoc altare consecratum in honore sc̃i Oswaldi regis & martiris a venerabili patre dno Hugone de Patishull Coventrensi Episcopo.

In the Harleian MS. nº 1486, fo. 49, b. is a copy of this inscription, (differing in a few letters only) which is there said to be written in an old Saxon character, in brass, in Mr. Cokayne's house at Ashburn. There is no date to the memorandum.

It is remarkable that the bishop should be styled of Coventry only.

The manor of Ashburn with that of Wirksworth was given by King John to William Ferrers, earl of Derby‡.

Near Ashbuyn is Bentley, the seat of the Beresfords, who have enjoyed it from the time of the conquest. In the church is a monument for one of the family, who had 16 sons, eight of whom lost their lives in the glorious battle of Agincourt.

The ride to Bakewell is a very pleasant one, by the Great Torr and the village of Matlock. On crossing the bridge, keep the river on the left, which accompanies the road a considerable way, sometimes near, sometimes farther off; on the other side

* The Gentleman's Magazine for 1769. p. 59, has a particular account of this mine.

† A fac simile of which is in the Gent. Mag. Sept. 1772.

‡ Dugd. Bar. v. i. p. 260.

of it a variety of hills rise in succession, various in form and colour, some pasture, some corn, some heath. The clergyman's house at Darley, snug in the bottom, has a neat and chearful appearance. On several of the hills plantations have been made, which are now getting up, and on others are natural woods. In different dales villages are seen, particularly Winster, and innumerable cottages are scattered on the sides of the hills, which greatly enliven the scene. Culture is generally extended to the tops of the mountains; nor are even the masses of stone, which in many places lie so thick as seemingly to render all attempts of the plough fruitless, able to stop the hand of industry. The miners employ those hours which are not spent in subterraneous work, or necessary refreshment, and that skill which they acquire from their professions, in clearing the ground for the ploughs, and it repays the labor.

At Roosley bridge the right hand road goes directly to Chatsworth; the left, crossing the bridge, to Bakewell. About a mile on this side Bakewell, Haddon Hall presents its venerable front, on the side of a hill, overlooking the little river Wye, and some exceeding rich pastures, reckoned the finest in the country. The house is castellated, and consists of two courts, round which the apartments and offices are built. Over the door of the great porch, leading into the hall, are two coats of arms, cut in stone; the one is Vernon, the other is Fulco de Pembridge, lord of Tong, in Shropshire, whose daughter and heir married sir Richard Vernon, and brought him a great estate. In the south front is a gallery, about 110 feet long, and 17 wide, the floor of which is said to have been laid with boards cut out of one oak, which grew in the park. In the middle is a large recess, with a window, and several other great bow windows. In one of them are the arms of England, circled with the garter, and surmounted with a crown. In another are those of the earl of Rutland, impaling Vernon with its quarterings, and circled with the garter. In the same window are the arms of the earl of Shrewsbury*, also circled with the garter. In a corner of the first court is the entrance to the chapel, under a low, sharp-pointed arch. In the east window were portraits of many of the Vernon family, parts of which still remain, but a few years ago the heads were stolen from them. A date of *Millesimo ccccxxvij* is legible. In the north window the name *Edwardus Vernon*, and his arms, remain; and in a south window is *Willmus Trussell*. In a dark part of the chapel stands the Roman altar, dug up near Bakewell, on which, according to Camden, is the following inscription:

Deo Marti
Braciace
Ofitius Cæcilian
Prefect
Tro . . .
V S

The rooms (except the gallery) are dark and uncomfortable, and give no favourable idea of our ancestors' taste or domestic pleasures; yet was this place for ages the seat of magnificence and hospitality. It was at length quitted by its owners, the dukes of Rutland, for Belvoir castle in Lincolnshire.

For many generations it was the seat of the Vernons. Prince Arthur, son of Henry VII., used to visit sir Henry Vernon at this place. Sir George, the last heir male, who

* Sir Henry Vernon married a daughter of John, the second earl of Shrewsbury. A very curious and accurate description of this house is given by Mr. King, in the 6th vol. of the *Archæologia*, p. 346.

lived in the time of Queen Elizabeth, gained the title of King of the Peak, by his generosity and noble manner of living. His second daughter carried this estate in marriage to John Manners, second son of the first earl of Rutland, which title afterwards descended to their posterity. For more than 100 years after the marriage this was the principal residence of the family, and the neighbourhood did not feel the loss of their old patrons. So lately as the time of the first duke of Rutland, (so created by Queen Anne) seven score servants were maintained, and during 12 days after Christmas, the house was kept open with the old English hospitality. This nobleman was so fond of the country that he rarely left it, and when he married his son to lord Russell's daughter, made it an article in the settlement that she should forfeit part of the jointure if she ever lived in town without his consent. What would a modern lady say to such a stipulation! The character of this nobleman was truly great, and he received the noblest pleasure in the enjoyment of the love and respect of his neighbours, and the blessings of the poor. Can the fashionable round of dissipation, in the town in winter, at the watering-places in the summer, afford a heart-felt satisfaction equal to this?

Bakewell is at the foot of the hills; the church with a handsome spire standing on a little eminence makes a good appearance. The font in it is of great antiquity; and at the west end is a Saxon arch. In one of the chancels is a raised tomb for sir George Vernon and his two wives, with their figures at full length on it; and against the wall are two magnificent monuments of alabaster, one for sir John Manners and Dorothy his wife, daughter and coheirefs of sir George Vernon; the other for sir George Manners and his wife, (who erected it in her life-time) and their four sons and five daughters, with all their figures. In the east chancel is a small raised tomb of alabaster, for John Vernon, son and heir of Henry Vernon, who died 12 Aug. 1477. The letters of the inscription were originally raised, but having been damaged, are now let into the slab, the old form of them being preserved.

In the church-yard is an ancient stone cross, said to have been brought hither from some other place.

The house which was formerly the Angel inn, and had a bath in it, is now a private house, and the bath is destroyed.

This place is now only a vicarage, worth about 80*l.* a-year, being an impropriation to the dean and chapter of Litchfield; but it is a very extensive parish, comprising seven chapels of ease, some of which are worth 40*l.* and 50*l.* a-year, or more, to which the vicar appoints: Buxton, 14 miles off, is one of them. At the reformation, as much land and tythes were sold off by the dean and chapter, at small reserved rents, as it is computed are now worth 3000*l.* a-year.

On the right hand of the bridle-road from hence to Chatsworth, is a square plot in a pasture, with a tumulus in it, which is hollow at the top, a few thorns growing on it. This was part of the castle built by Edward the Elder, in 924*, which was of great extent, as appears by foundations occasionally discovered; but there is not now a stone of it to be seen.

From this spot is a delightful view of the town, the valley, the river, the meadows, and the opposite hills. Near the foot of the castle-hill, a copper bolt head,

* The words in Gibson's Saxon Chron. under that year are; "Porrexit inde (*i. e.* a Snotingham) in Peaclond ad Badecanwyllam (*i. e.* Bakewell) & jussit exædificari urbem in ejus vicinia, & præsidio firmari," p. 110. From the name of Badecanwylla it may be conjectured that the bath here had been in use long before this time; probably made by the Romans.

an instrument discharged from some engine, was lately found, covered with a green crust.

Near two miles beyond Bakewell is a village called Ashford in the Water; on rising the hill beyond it (in the road to Tideswell) a wall guards a precipice on the left, from whence is a most enchanting scene. The bottom is a narrow dale, called Monfall Dale, running between the mountains on your left hand, and, opposite to the place where you stand, winding round the corner of a projecting hill, and at length lost behind another, which seems to close the vale. It is watered by the lively little river Wye, which rising near Buxton, about 10 miles off, finds its way between the hills, and runs through this dale, by Ashford, Bakewell, and Haddon Hall, into the Derwent. The descent from the point of view is steep and abrupt; at the bottom stands a farm-house, in a most picturesque situation, shaded by some trees, and just by is a rustic wooden bridge over the stream, resting on some rocks, and forming a communication with the opposite ground. The river runs through meadows mixed with a few corn fields, sometimes of a considerable width, sometimes narrowed by banks ornamented with fine trees; widening again it runs round a small island; here it breaks over rocks, there it steals softly along, and twisting in a thousand meanders, is at length lost behind the point of a hill, but the sound of a considerable fall of its waters is heard. The side of the left hand hill, which is very steep, is in some parts of the finest turf, in others covered with underwood, from the brow to the water's edge. The projecting hill, which is opposite, is of green turf, and after rising to some height, becomes nearly flat; its plain is adorned with single trees dispersed over it, after which it rises again.

A horseman may cross the water by the farm-house, and will find a track on his left, by which he may pass through this little vale to Ashford, and so return to Bakewell; and by going this way will gain a sight of the waterfall, which is well worth visiting. The duke of Devonshire, who is owner of this fairy dale, has often brought the dutchess to enjoy the beauties of it. If you have an inclination to go up this dale, and trace the stream towards its source, you come to a point of land, where the Wye receives another little stream, which rises on Wardlaw Moor; on this last stream is a place called Bright Pool, to which people sometimes go to bathe, though it is nothing more than a part of the rivulet deeper than the rest; but the water of it is supposed to possess some medicinal qualities. Higher up is a small fall of the current over the rock, not worth the trouble of going through the bushes to see. At the point of land above-mentioned, a gentleman to whom it was allotted on an inclosure, has made a large plantation of lavender, peppermint, and other aromatic herbs, and set up a distillery of them. This is called Cressbrook Dale, and if the wood was properly cleared away, I am told it would be a Dove Dale in miniature.

At Ashford a considerable work is carried on in polishing black marble, dug there, and brown or yellow brought from Money-ash, and other places, about three miles off. About the year 1748, one Mr. Watson erected the mill for this purpose, the mechanism of which is very ingenious, and was his own invention. The machines are moved by wheels turned by the stream, and saw, level, and polish, different pieces at the same time. The black marble takes so fine a polish that the slabs have the appearance of looking-glasses. The grey is full of sea shells, and resembles that found in some parts of Sussex.

Two miles from Bakewell, in the Sheffield road, is Hassop, a handsome seat of Mr. Eyre, in whose family it has been from the 13 Henry VII. when it was purchased by

his ancestor of sir Robert Plompton, of Plompton*. He pursues a plan begun by his father, of making large plantations of trees. The walks in them are pleasant and well kept. He has built a green-house and hot-house.

Of all the amusements which a plentiful fortune enables a man to enjoy, there is perhaps none so rational as that of planting. It is not only a present pleasure, but a future profit; not only a private advantage, but a public benefit. Instead of decaying, like the works of art, a plantation improves with years, and the longer a man lives, the greater the beauty and value of his woods. Nor is it for posterity only that the planter works, many sorts of trees may be cut for profit in the compass of a moderate life; neither is the pleasure derived from it confined to himself, every passenger partakes of it. Let any one who has travelled through the unclosed counties say how chearful, after passing a long tract of common field land, is the appearance of the few homesteads around the little village, their hedges adorned with trees, and sheltering the cottages of the inhabitants!

Hardwick Hall, a noble old seat of the duke of Devonshire, is about ten miles from Matlock. The way is, through the village, turning on the right when over the bridge, and then the road inclines to the left. Pass some barren commons, and over an exceeding hilly road, into a rich country. At about ten miles the hall is seen on a high hill, like a castle in the midst of a wood. It was brought into the Devonshire family by the countess of Shrewsbury (mentioned at Derby) who built it near the spot where the old mansion stood, part of which is still remaining; but much of it was pulled down, and the timber used in building the present house at Chatsworth. In Kennett's Memoirs of the Cavendish Family, he says, that one of the rooms in this old house was of such exact proportion, and such convenient lights, that it was thought fit for a pattern of measure and contrivance of a room in Blenheim; but he does not say what room. William earl of Devonshire, great grandson of this lady, resided here, and by his weight and influence contributed very much to the revolution. King William raised him to the title of duke, and honoured him with the highest employments. He was a firm and steady patriot; the inscription which he ordered for his tomb is remarkable:

*Willielmus dux Devon
Bonorum Principum fidelis subditus,
Inimicus & Invisus tyrannis.*

The house is built of stone, dug out of the hill on which it stands, and has a lofty tower at each corner, and a spacious court in the front. Going through a large hall, a grand stair-case leads to the apartments on the first floor.

At the head of the stair-case is the chapel and the dining-room, in which are several family pictures.

The countess of Shrewsbury in a close black dress, a double picked ruff, long chain of five rows of pearls, reaching below her waist, sleeves down to her wrists, turned up with small picked white cuffs, a fan in her left hand, her hair brown.

Charles Cavendish, brother to the third earl of Devonshire.

Charles Cavendish, brother to the first duke, taken when he was asleep.

William, the first duke, in armour.

Sir Harry Cavendish, brother to the second duke.

John lord Burleigh, son to Ann, countess of Exeter.

Elizabeth, countess of Devonshire.

* Harl. MS. No. 1486. fo. 47.

A head, by some called that of Erasmus, but the Cavendish arms are on it, and other arms, in single shields.

Robert Cecil, third son to William, second earl of Salisbury, a small whole length. Lord treasurer Burleigh.

Sir William Cavendish, the husband of this lady, at 42, in a fur gown, long picked beard, whiskers, small flat cap, glove in his left hand.

One of the countess's husbands (which of them is not known) in black cloaths and cloak, large plaited ruff, small picked beard and whiskers.

A head, said to be of sir Francis Bacon.

Over the chimney are the countess's arms, in a lozenge, and underneath are these words; "The conclusion of all things is to fear God, and keep his commandments. E. S. 1597." From this room a passage, open to the hall, leads to the drawing-room, which is wainscotted about six feet high, and above that hung with tapestry. In this room is a picture of the countess, where she appears in a more advanced age than she did in that which is in the dining-room; the dress is black, the same chain of pearls, a large ruff with hollow plaits, a kind of figured gauze veil comes over her hair to the forehead in the middle, but leaves the sides of her hair uncovered, and hangs down behind; her hair is here of a golden colour. Quere, therefore, as the hair in the other portrait is brown, whether they are both meant for her. From this picture Vertue engraved his print of her. Over the chimney are her arms, in a lozenge, with two stags for supporters, and underneath are these lines, alluding to the great fortune she brought;

Sanguine Cornu Corde Oculo Pede Cervus et aure
Nobilis at claro pondere nobilior.

Beyond this are three bed-rooms, in one of which is a bed worked by the Queen of Scots, when she was here under the care of the earl of Shrewsbury; it is in silks worked on canvass, and then set on black velvet. The chairs and hangings are also by her. In the latter is a figure adoring the cross, and 12 whole lengths, females, with the names over them, of Constans, Artemisia, Pietas, Chastity, Lucretia, Liberality, Perseverance, Penelope, Patience, Magnanimity, Zenobia, Prudence. Another flight of stairs leads to the state apartments. On the stair-case here is a whole length of the first duke on horseback, in an embroidered coat, a large wig, and a feather in his hat.

The state room, in which the first duke used to have his levees, is very lofty, 63 feet long, 33 wide; and at the upper end of it is a chair of state, under a canopy. It is hung with tapestry to some height, over which is colored stucco, representing the court of Diana, hawks, dogs, &c.

The state drawing-room is hung with tapestry. Over the chimney is the story of Abraham offering up Isaac, in the same sort of stucco as in the last room.

Adjoining to this is the state bed-room, and the bed-room of the Queen of Scots. Over the door her arms are carved in wood, with M R in a cypher, and round it, *Marie Stewart par la grace de Dieu Roine Descoffe Douariere de France*. Crest, a lion; motto, *In my defens*.

Another bed-room.

A gallery, about 195 feet in length, extends the whole of the east front, with windows in square recesses projecting beyond the wall. In this gallery are a great number of portraits of royal and noble personages, many of them hurt, and some entirely destroyed by damp.

On the left hand going in is a whole length of Queen Elizabeth, in a gown painted with serpents, birds, a sea horse, swan, ostrich, &c. her hair golden.

James V. king of Scots, æt. 28, Mary, his second wife, æt. 24, in one piece.

Sir Thomas More, in a fur gown, and black cap.

Henries IV. VI. VII. VIII.

William, second earl of Salisbury.

Mary the First of England.

The countess of Shrewsbury, a half length, a black gown faced with ermine, a ruff with small plaits, three chains of pearls, interspersed with gold ornaments, not hanging very low; her hair yellow.

Edward VI.

Sir William Cavendish, as in the other room, æt. 44.

Henry VIII.

Thomas Hobbes, æt. 89.

Cardinal Pool.

James I. when a boy, in a very aukward dress.

Henry VIII.

One of the Cavendishes, 1576, æt. 25.

Queen Elizabeth.

Stephen Gardiner.

James I. æt. 8. a^o 1574, a hawk on his hand.

George Talbot, earl of Shrewsbury, æt. 58, a^o 1580.

Maria D. G. Scotia piissima regina, Franciæ Doweria anno ætatis regni 36 Angliæ captivæ 10.

Amongst those next the windows, which are almost defaced, are Arabella Stuart, lord Darnley, sir Thomas Wyatt, and King Richard the III^d.

The duke sometimes spends a few weeks here in the summer, and indeed the situation is a very noble one.

To make the excursion to Chatsworth, the pleasantest, though not the nearest ride, is by Bakewell. Turning on the right hand in the town, crosses the river, and ascend the hill by a bridle road, going by the site of the castle, mentioned before; this hill is very steep, but from the side of it the town, the river, and the meadows, present a very pleasing landscape. From the descent on the opposite side, Chatsworth is seen in the bottom, with its woods and numerous additional plantations made by the late duke, the tops of the stony and barren hills shewing themselves behind it. It does not appear to advantage from hence, as the vale is so narrow, that the lawn in the west front is hardly distinguished, and the woods behind seem to rise close to the house.

At the entrance of the park a handsome house is built by the duke for his chaplain (who has the living of the place) on the spot where the inn, called Edenfor (pronounced Enfor) inn, lately stood; and the inn is removed to the left of the village, in the road from Matlock (which passes through part of the park) to Basklow and Tideswell. In the way to the house, cross the river Derwent, by a very elegant stone bridge of three arches, erected by Mr. Paine; the sculpture is the work of Cibber; those in the niches of the piers are of statuary marble, the others of stone from a neighbouring quarry. On the left of this, by the river side, hid by trees, is the remain of an old square tower, moated round, called Mary Queen of Scot's bower, or garden, from a garden which there used to be on the top of the tower, in which she probably was allowed to amuse herself.

So much has been said of this house, at a time when there was no house in the country to be compared with it, that it is no wonder if the visitor is disappointed. It was built in the reign of William III. and is certainly magnificent, but you look in vain for those beautiful productions of the pencil, which now so frequently adorn the seats of our nobility and gentry; a few whole length portraits in one of the state apartments are nearly all you see. The chapel is elegant, and there is a good deal of the exquisite carving of Gibbon, who lost his life here in putting it up, by a fall from a scaffold: in the library, which is seldom opened, are a few antiques. The manner in which you are shewn the house, does not prejudice you much in its favour. Nor can I say any thing in praise of the garden, as it is now kept; the conceits in the water-works might be deemed wonderful when they were made, but those who have contemplated the water-falls which nature exhibits in this country, and in various parts of the kingdom, will receive little pleasure from seeing a temporary stream falling down a flight of steps, spouted out of the mouths of dolphins or dragons, or squirted from the leaves of a copper tree. The little current in the wood above, which descends in a perpetual rill from the reservoir on the hills, would, if properly exhibited, furnish a much more pleasing scene, though it could not be said to be in the stile of the house, magnificent. The walks which lead to the highest part of the wood, are close, without openings to let in views of the country, or of particular objects, and yet in many parts the underwood is cut down for use, close to the walks, which has a very disagreeable appearance. At the point of the wood is a building, called the Hunting Tower, probably intended to furnish a sight of the hunters on the surrounding hills, but it does not now answer the purpose, the trees being in some parts grown so high as to intercept the view. It is a square, with a rounded tower at each angle, two stories above the ground floor, the top leaded, about 90 feet high in the whole. There is a better view to the west and north, before coming to it, than there is from the building itself, owing to the growth of the trees, and a very fine one this is. The house, the park, the river, the kitchen-garden (of six acres) lie immediately below; beyond is Mr. Eyre's, at Hasslop, with the plantations about his house; Baislow, Stony Middleton, distinguished by the smoak of its lime-kilns; and Stoke-hall, with the barren hills called Baislow-barrow, forming a contrast to the other cultivated parts.

By a view of Chatsworth, taken by Knyff, and engraved by Kip, about the year 1709, it appears that the wood extended only to the foot of the hill where this tower stands, except that there were two small round clumps near the farther end; though the whole is now covered, and many of the firs are of considerable size, so that the prospect was then clear and uninterrupted. From hence the date of the plantation may be nearly ascertained.

Above the wood is level ground, in which is a large nursery of firs, oaks, &c. removed hither from the warmer nursery below, by way of being hardened for the still colder climate of the bleak hills, which rise beyond, and where the duke is making a plantation of about 120 acres. He plants about 20 acres of it in a year with Scotch fir, oak, and larch, of three years old. The ground is trenched a foot or 16 inches deep, the turf thrown at bottom, the earth on that, and then the trees are planted at about three feet distance. This work is done from Christmas to April. By being planted small, the roots get good hold of the ground before the wind has much power over them, and afterwards they shoot with great strength.

It is on these hills that the reservoir is made which supplies the water-works and the house; it contains about 16 acres.

Return by a boundary walk near the outside of the present woods, and cross the rill from the reservoir, which descends very swiftly for about 100 yards to the water-temple, and might be shewn to much advantage. Pass by some pieces of water to the grand canal, which is 325 yards long, and 25 broad, and is on the spot where originally stood a hill, which was removed to open a view to the country. Here are some fine trees, and from hence Bafslow-barrow shews its naked top over the house. A wood on the high parts of it, not hiding the whole of the ground (or rather rock) would have a good effect, but it is not the property of the duke. From the end of this canal there is a noble terrace walk leading to the house, separated by a balustrade from a walk in a shrubbery below, which is parted by a sunk fence from the park, and has a fine slope down to the river, with a view of that and the bridge. The balustrade and the under-wood spoil that view from the terrace.

The great stables are magnificent and well contrived. The west and north fronts extend 202 feet; the centre part of the south front contains standings for twenty-one horses; there are two stables for seven hunters each, and two for three each; a three stall stable for stallions; a farrier's shop, other workshops, lodges for the domestics, and different offices adjoining. Besides this, there is stabling for thirty-six horses in the buildings adjoining to the house. These stables and the bridge were built about 1760.

The alterations made in the grounds by the late duke, were under the direction of Mr. Lancelot Brown*.

In returning to the inn, you may go on the right hand, when over the bridge, and from some round clumps of trees see all that side of the park. A new gate is made here, which comes out just by the inn.

By going to the high ground on the left side of the park, above the road from Matlock, that part is seen to advantage, and it is the most beautiful, the trees being finer, and better dispersed.

However little the noble owner may be inclined to lay out his money in disposing his grounds according to the modern, simple and beautiful stile, he is not backward, when he is here, in distributing it to the distressed. The poor, the widow, and the fatherless, bless that providence which has bestowed such wealth on one so ready to relieve their wants.

The landlord of the inn at the park gate is an intelligent, sensible man, and can furnish very good accommodations.

To see the Peak, &c. a lodging will be wanted either at Castleton, or at Tidswell; the latter is much the most comfortable, and the usage at the George is very civil, in a plain stile. If the traveller dines at Edensor, he should sleep at Tidswell, and go to Castleton in the morning.

The road to either, from Edensor inn, is by Middleton-dale; cross the river by a bridge at Bafslow, another at Calver, and then come to Stony Middleton, where the unusual figure of the church, or rather chapel, which is an octagon, strikes the eye. Over the town is seen the smoak of the numerous kilns, used for burning the rocks into lime for manure, by means of which the most barren of these hills are fertilized. These kilns are built at the foot of the rocks, from which the stone is got to be burnt; they work only in the summer, except one, which is constantly employed in burning lime for a smelting cupola here. It takes up two days to burn a kiln; the lime is drawn out at bottom, and sold for two-pence a strike, or bushel. The men earn from eight

* Paine's Plans, &c.

to ten shillings a week. Small carts bring a load of slack (the small part of the pit-coal) from about Sheffield and Chesterfield, and receive for it a load of lime. Three strike of lime are considered as a load, and from 40 to 50 loads are laid on an acre. Coals are sold here for 6d. the hundred weight.

The lime-stone is one mass of shells, all of the cockle and oyster kind*.

The chapel is a chapel of ease to the church of Hathersage, was rebuilt in 1759, and is very neat in the inside.

Land letts from a guinea to 50 shillings an acre. Little wheat or barley is grown, but large quantities of barley and malt are brought from Wirksope and Mansfield, for the Manchester carriers, who come hither to receive it.

In this place is a tolerable inn, called *The Man in the Moon*—and on the north side the town there is a bath, called St. Martin's, nearly as hot as that at Buxton, bubbling up continually like that; it is enclosed by four walls, but is open at the top, and has been used by poor people with good success in rheumatic cases. Near this a drinking warm spring rises out of a rock, and falls on the earth below, having no basin to receive it. There are also three perpetual warm bubbling springs on the west side the church-yard. These warm waters, like those at Matlock, are petrefying†. There is also a chalybeate spring here‡.

In the lead-mines on the other side the mountain, above these springs, and about two fathoms above the lead ore, was a bed of Boulder-stones, any one of which being broken, is found to contain from half a pint to a gallon of soft bitumen§, like Barbadoes tar; it melts before the sun or fire to oil. There were also several springs in the mines, that took fire with a candle, and would burn a week or fortnight; and all the water drilling through this stratum of Boulder-stones will take fire, and burn many days. This bed was continued between two and three miles all along Hucklewedge, with its burning waters. The first discovery of these stones happened by a workman's breaking one of them; the outside was only a shell of stone, filled with a soft matter, in which he stuck his candle, which burning down to this substance, it melted and burnt, and was then a fine clear balsam, without smell, except thrown into the fire. When cooled, it hardened like fine fat, and at first was used for greasing boots and shoes, but was found to shrivel them up.

On the north side of the mountain, opposite these springs, is a mine which cannot be worked, for in picking or striking the ore, the sudden shaking of the metal gives such a violent motion to the sulphur, that it makes an explosion like fired gunpowder, so as great lumps rise and fly about||.

This is the entrance of Middleton-dale, through which the turnpike road runs. It is a narrow valley, or rather cleft, between lofty rocks, which seem to have been rent by some great convulsion of nature; they are mostly bare, or with a few scattered bushes, or trees. In confirmation of the opinion that the rocks have been torn asunder, it has been observed that the veins of lead in the mines on one side, have corresponding veins in the same direction, on the other. A streamlet runs down by the side of the road, great part of the way. Where the road turns off to Eyam (pronounced Eme) Mr. Longstone has placed a seat on the summit, has planted some trees, and made a grotto with spars, &c. found in the neighbourhood. One Benneson earns a livelihood here by collecting them, and has a number of specimens at his house. In the church-

* Short, p. 96.

† Short's History of Waters, p. 91. 102.

‡ Ibid, p. 280.

§ Qu. If this is the rock oil, or fairies butter, mentioned by Mr. Pennant, in his Tour in Wales, 1773, p. 421.

|| Short, p. 97.

yard of Eyam is a stone cross, supposed by an eminent antiquarian to be Danish. At the time the great earthquake happened at Lisbon, on November 1, 1755, about ten in the morning, the rocks were so much disturbed in the mines here, that soil, &c. fell from their joints or fissures, and the workmen heard violent explosions, as it were of cannon. They fled to the surface for safety, but on venturing down, found nothing material had happened*.

There are here some remarkable caverns. One of them is called Boffen-hole (Boffen signifies a Badger), but the chief is Bamforth-hole, in Charleswork, a little west of the former. The following is Dr. Short's description of it:

"Charleswork lies at the foot of a very steep rock, ninety-three yards high, and five yards above the level of the brook; its entry is six yards high, and eight wide, when you walk on for fifty-two yards, and then come to an unpassable deep stagnant lake. This cave reaches quite through the mountains, and opens into Eyamdale, which is above half a mile. By another of its grottos it opens near Foolow, which is a mile and half, passing under Eyam church.

Forty-four yards above this is the entry into Bamforth-hole, 49 yards from the top of the rock, and as much from the small brook; the entry is five feet high, then descending, one shoulder foremost for forty yards, you rise up for thirteen more, all this way not being above a yard wide. At last you climb a steep six feet high, and enter into the middle of a large cave, where are great variety of stalactitious petrifications. Leaving the cave behind, and going 25 yards forward, you are introduced into a most magnificent room, nine yards wide, and two high, its roof, floor and sides all shining with endless numbers and varieties of beautiful transparent statues, with several regular ranks of fine pyramids, and other curious figures, some upon pedestals, others reaching the roof, others reaching from the roof to the floor. In the middle of this room is a basin three yards long, and two wide, on each side of which is a stately pillar of stalactites, one fine polished marble, and another in the middle upon a pedestal; through the bottom of this is a very small passage a few feet down, into another entry, to several other caves still lower. The roof of this vault is beautifully adorned with all kinds of shells, here *generated and generating*, of fundry colours, and no less beauty and variety, interwrought with many other curious figures. A little beyond this is a fine stone pillar supporting the roof. On the right hand of this cave are openings into two others, at ten yards distance. I went 360 yards into this cave, the same entertainment and curiosity all along, and many other caves going off on all sides, and saw no end of them, they going on under the whole mountain†."

Minerals are found in the fissures, and between the lamina of limestone, never in the solid substance. The vein is frequently intercepted by what is called toadstone, blackstone, channel, or cat dirt, which runs between, and cuts off all communication between the upper and lower fissures in the limestone, but being dug through, the vein is always found below it; it is however sometimes of great thickness, from six feet to 600.

Between Grange-mill and Darlhy-moor there are found the following strata;

1. Millstone grit	-	120 yards.
2. Shale or Shiver†	-	120
3. Limestone	-	50

* Whitehurst, p. 189.

† Short, p. 95.

‡ Shale is a black laminated clay, containing neither animal nor vegetable impressions, and rarely minerals; but has iron stone in nodules, and sometimes stratified. Springs issuing from it are of the chalybeate kind.

4. Toadstone	-	-	-	16 yards.
5. Limestone	-	-	-	25 fathoms.
6. Toadstone	-	-	-	23
7. Limestone	-	-	-	30
8. Toadstone	-	-	-	11
9. Limestone	not cut through.			

In Tidswell-moor, 600 feet have been sunk in the toadstone, without finding the end. Mr. Whitehurst conjectures this toadstone to be lava, and to have flowed from a volcano, whose funnel or shaft did not reach the open air, but disgorged its contents between the strata in all directions. He describes it to be a blackish substance, very hard; containing bladder-holes, like the scoria of metals, or Iceland lava, and having the same chymical property of resisting acids; he says, some of its bladder-holes are filled with spar, others only in part, and others quite empty; that this stratum is not laminated, but consists of one entire solid mass, and breaks alike in all directions; that it does not produce any minerals, or figured stones, representing any part of animal or vegetable creation; nor any adventitious bodies enveloped in it, but is as much an uniform mass as any vitrified substance can be supposed to be; neither does it universally prevail, as the limestone does. It is not found in the mines at Eyam, Foolow, and Ashover, though they are sunk near fifty fathoms in the limestone; nor in Rake-mine, near Tidswell, and some other places. In confirmation of this opinion, and of its having been once a liquid fire, he observes, that a stratum of clay lying under it in Mosley-meer mine, near Winster, of about four feet thick, is burnt a foot deep, as much as an earthen pot, or brick; that it is perfectly similar to Iceland lava in its appearance and chymical quality; that it is variable in its thickness, not universal, and fills up fissures in the stratum beneath. From the depth which has been sunk on Tidswell-moor without finding the bottom, he thinks that might be a mouth of the volcano. As a further proof of there having been some most extraordinary convulsion of nature in this part of the kingdom, he mentions the confusion in which the strata lie in the mountains of Derbyshire, and moorlands of Staffordshire, adjoining, which appear to be so many heaps of ruins, particularly in the neighbourhood of Ecton, Wetton, Dovedale, Ilam, and Swithamly. They are broken, dislocated, and thrown into every possible direction, and their interior parts are no less rude and romantic, for they universally abound with subterraneous caverns and marks of violence. The banks on the east side the river Derwent, from Crich-cliff twenty miles up the river, are covered with fragments of stone, probably ejected from their native beds by subterraneous blasts. At Utoxeter, in Staffordshire, blocks of limestone of four or 500 weight each, are dug up, yet there are no quarries of the kind nearer than four or five miles*.

Middleton-dale terminates on the mountains of the Peak, bleak, open, and bare of trees; but even here the spirit of cultivation has introduced the plough. The extensive hills are divided by stone walls, and oats are produced.

Pass by Wardlow turnpike; at a small distance on the left is a village of that name, through which the road runs from Bakewell. In making that road in 1759, the workmen took out of an adjoining field a heap of stones, that had been there time immemorial, and without any tradition concerning it, though manifestly a work of art. On removing them, places were found where the bodies of 17, or more, persons had been deposited on flat stones of about seven feet six inches long, placed on the surface of the

* Whitehurst, p. 51, 52.

ground; small walls of two feet high were raised on the sides, and on these other flat stones were laid, but they extended only to the breast, except the two capital ones, which were walled up, and covered from head to foot, in the form of a long chest. On removing the rubbish, many jaw-bones and teeth were found undecayed, but none of the larger bones of the body. The heap of stones that covered them was circular, 32 yards in diameter, and about five feet high; the stones forming the coffins appeared plainly to have been taken from a quarry about a quarter of a mile distant. A part of the circle was vacant, but probably not so originally, as several bones and teeth were found in that space.

The Rev. Mr. Evatt, of Ashford, who communicated this account to the Royal Society, thinks this monument not to have been very ancient, less so than a wall which is there, and encloses the field, because that wall cut off a part of the circle, and the part so cut off was as level as the rest of the field; and he apprehends that in building the wall, they would not have taken the pains to remove the stone in order to carry the wall straight*. I confess I should draw a different conclusion from the position of the wall, and should think it more likely that they would carry the wall straight, (especially as the stones removed furnished materials for it) than that the monument should be thrown up on both sides of such a wall, and be intersected by it.

About a mile and a half beyond Wardlow turnpike, Tidswell is seen on the left, and two roads turn off on the right; the nearest, which is a turnpike road, goes from Tidswell to Sheffield; the farther leads by an old broken wall, and a few houses, called Little Hucklar, to Castleton, a town at the foot of that hill where is the famous cavern called the Devil's A——.

The well at Tidswell, mentioned as one of the wonders of the Peak, is at a distance from the town, and ebbs and flows at uncertain times; after great rains, several times in an hour; in dry weather, perhaps not once a week†. Eden-hole, another of the wonders, is about three or four miles off, but by no means worth seeing; it is nothing more than the mouth of a very deep chasm in the earth, walled round, to prevent cattle from falling in. Cotton says, he sounded 884 yards, and found no bottom, but it is said now that the plummet stops at 60 yards. Short, from the sound of stones thrown in, calculates it to be 422 yards‡.

A small clear stream runs through the street at Tidswell; except two or three houses, the buildings are mean, but the church is large. In the chancel is a flat stone in memory of John, son of Thomas Foljambe, mentioned as having done much towards building the church. The date is 1358. There is also a raised tomb (on which bread is given away every Sunday) for Sampson Meurrill, with a date of 1388; and another for Robert Pursglove, described as prior of Gisburn abbey, prebend of Rotherham, and bishop of Hull, who died 1579. He was a native of this town, and surrendered the abbey to Henry VIII. who allowed him a considerable pension. He was afterwards made provost or prebend of Rotherham college, in Yorkshire; and in the beginning of Queen Mary's reign, was made archdeacon of Nottingham, and suffragan bishop of Hull, under the archbishop of York, and had other dignities. Refusing to take the oath of supremacy to Queen Elizabeth, he was deprived of his archdeaconry, and other spiritualities, in 1560, whereupon he retired to this his native place, and founded here a grammar school, adjoining to the church-yard, and an hospital for 12 poor people; and also founded a grammar-school at Gisburne§.

* His expression is, "to carry it level."

§ Wood's *Athenæ Oxon.*

† Short, p. 34.

‡ Ibid. p. 33.

In the south transept of the church is a tomb, with whole-length figures of a man and woman, their names not known.

Return about a mile of the road passed over in the way to Tidswell, and then turn off by the broken wall mentioned before.

The descent of the hill to Castleton is long and steep. A fine vale is seen below, in which is a town with a handsome spire, seeming to be the object of your journey; but at the point of the hill, a short turning to the left leads by a still steeper road to Castleton, which appears on turning this point; the other town is called Hope.

At this point are some objects to be attended to. The vale below is of considerable width, fertile, and divided into corn-fields and pastures, watered by a rivulet, which shews itself here and there. On the range of hills which rise on the opposite side, (and stretch away on the left to Castleton, terminating in a point called Mam-Torr) near to Hope, is a pointed knob, almost circular, round which is a trench; and nearer to Castleton is another, less conspicuous; the former is called Win-hill, the latter Loose-hill, from the event of a battle said to have been fought between two parties posted here, but who they were, or when it happened, the people cannot give any information. At a dip of these hills, near Hope, the entrance of another dale is seen, which runs behind them, and is called Edale. Mam-Torr is distinguished by an abrupt precipice of brown stone, with a large area on the top, inclosed with a double trench, running up to the edge of it. The vulgar story is, that this hill is continually crumbling, without being diminished, and it was therefore reputed one of the wonders; they call it the Shivering hill, from the shivers of stone brought down by the frost. That it is diminished, and most visibly so, I shall mention more particularly by and by. A more wonderful thing here is a rich lead mine, which, though it has been worked much longer than any other which is known, (perhaps from the time of the Danes being here) still abounds with ore, and furnishes employment for about one hundred people.

Castleton is a small, poor town, at the foot of a hill, which rises with a very steep ascent, the castle standing at the top of it. This hill is separated from one which rises still higher, by a deep and narrow valley, called the Cave, or Cove, which runs on two sides of it; another side is defended by the tremendous precipice which hangs over the entrance of the great cavern; but there is a narrow neck of land at the south-west corner of the castle, which runs over the mouth of the cavern, and joins to a pasture, called Calow Pasture; so that the castle was only accessible by the steep ascent from the town, or by this neck of land. It was, however, little calculated for defence, except against any sudden assault, being too small to hold any great number of men, and there are no marks of there having been any well in it; and unless they had some contrivance to get water out of the cavern below, (of which there is no trace) it does not appear how they could be supplied, if an enemy was in possession of the town. It was, however, used as a fortification by the barons in King John's time, and was taken from them in the 16th of that king, by William Ferrers, earl of Derby, (great grandson of Margaret, daughter and heir of William Peverell) who held the governorship of it six years*. In the 7 Henry III. the custody of it was given to Bryan de l'Isle, a person much trusted by Henry. It was again granted to him in the 13th, and again in the 16th of that king†. The valley winds amongst the mountains for the length of a mile, being mostly narrow at the bottom, but opposite the castle was 200 yards over.

* Dugd. Bar. v. i. p. 261.

† Ibid. v. i. p. 737.

Tradition says, that this castle was built by William Peverell, natural son of the Conqueror, who once spent a Christmas here. Mr. King thinks it of much earlier date, but it is certain that Peverell had it at the time of the survey, by the name of the Castle of Peke, with the honor and forest, and 14 lordships in this county, besides a great many in Nottinghamshire, and other countries*. It seems to have been sometimes called the Castle of Hope, as John, earl of Warren and Surrey, was made governor of that castle in 28 Edward I. and it is not known that there was any one in that place. In 4 Edward II. John, the grandson and successor of this earl, had a grant of the castle and honor of Peke in Derbyshire, with the whole forest of High Peke, in as ample manner as William Peverell anciently enjoyed the same before it came to the king of England by escheat†. Peverell is said to have held a grand tournament here, at which a king of Scotland and prince of Wales were present. This castle and forest appears to have been part of the fortune given with Joan, sister of Edward the III^d. on her marriage with David, prince of Scotland‡.

The common opinion is, that the stone with which this castle is built, was brought from a place called Bur-tor, near Hucklow, by Batham-edge, down Calow-pasture, and was conveyed over a ditch of 50 feet wide, and 12 deep, formed by a point of land shooting out from the pasture into the valley, called the Cave, by a drawbridge near the side of the Isthmus, to the point of the hill on which the castle stands. That the stone was brought from Bur-tor is indeed certain, for besides the almost insuperable difficulty of bringing it from the other side, the stone here is found on examination to be of the same sort as that used in this building.

The path from the town to the castle is carried in traverses, to break the steepness of the ascent. A large area, called the castle yard, was inclosed by a stone wall, running across the hill from east to west, from the cave to the cavern, and from north to south, along the side of each of those places, so as to meet the keep which stands at the point of a rock, jutting over the mouth of the great cavern, about 261 feet above the water which issues from thence. This wall, towards the town, is still 20 feet high in some places, but the ground within is mostly level with the top of it. A little distance from the east end of it is a part which is higher, and projects four or five feet from the wall, the top seeming to have been embattled. Between this and the north-east corner the foot of the wall is supported by a stone buttress; near the north-west corner, the wall is also higher, and in it was a door, or perhaps window, as there is no appearance of steps on the outside. From this corner up to the keep, the wall along the edge of the precipice is 10 or 12 feet high. The entrance to the castle yard was at the north-east corner, where was an arched way, as appears by the south side of the arch still remaining.

The walls of the keep, on the south and west sides, are pretty entire, and at the north-west corner are now fifty-five feet high; but the north and east sides are much shattered. On the outside it forms a square of 38 feet two inches, but on the inside it is not equal, being from north to south 21 feet four inches, from east to west 19 feet three inches. As I can depend on the accuracy of my friend, who measured it, this difference must be accounted for from a difference in the thickness of the walls, which in general are near eight feet. It consisted of two rooms only, one on the

* Dugd. Bar. v. i. p. 436.

† Ibid. v. i. p. 81.

‡ A^o 11 E. III. Eliz. que fuit ux Tho— Menerell tenuit die quo obiit terciam partem unius messuagii & 10 acr terre cum pertinentiis in Wormhull in com. Derby de Johanna regi^{ne} Angliæ, [but this must be a mistake] ut de castro de pecco per serjantiam vid. per homagium & per servitium inveniendi unum hominem cum arcu & sagittis in foresta ipsius regine de alto pecco. Harl. MS. 2223. fo. 101.



Engraved by George Cooke.

Peak of Derbyshire.

London, Published by Longman, High Street, & Wm. Bland, Pall Mall, March 1819.

ground floor, and one above, over which the roof was raised, not flat, but with gable ends to the north and south, the outer walls rising above it. The ground floor was about 14 feet high, as well as can be discovered from the rubbish now fallen on the bottom; the other room was 16 feet high. There was no entrance to the lower room from the outside, (what is now used as an entrance being only a hole broke through the wall at the corner where the staircase is*) but a flight of steps led to a door in the south side of the upper room, the door being seven feet high, and about four and a half wide. It is said these steps are remembered to have been there, but are now quite destroyed. The places where were the hinges of the door, remain, and on one side is a hole in the wall, in which the bar to fasten the door was put. It is now called the bar-hole, is made of squared stone, and goes 12 or 14 feet into the wall; on the other side is a hole to correspond with it. In this room is one narrow window over the door, one in the north, and one in the east side; in the north-east and south-west corners, are two places which have the appearance of privies; in the south-east corner is a narrow winding stair-case, now in a ruinous condition, which led down to the room below, and up to the roof. Descending this staircase, the lower room is found to have been lighted by two windows, or loops, one in the north side, the other in the east, each of them being seven feet high, five feet five inches wide on the inside, but narrowing to about four feet high, and seven inches wide on the outside†. The walls are composed of small limestones and mortar, of such an excellent temper, that it binds the whole together like a rock, faced on the outside and inside with hewn gritstone. Part of that on the outside, and much of it on the inside, is still pretty intire; but the sandy part of some of the stones has crumbled away, so as at first sight to exhibit an appearance of very rude sculpture; but within a quarter of an inch of the mortar, at the joints, the stone is entire, which may be owing to the effect of the well tempered mortar on such parts as come in contact with it. In further confirmation of this opinion, I am assured, that at Bur-tor there is a stratum of stone which moulders away in this manner. On the outside there is no appearance of any such thing; may we suppose the weather to have hardened the stone there? Within side there is in the wall a little her-ring-bone ornament. This castle was used for keeping the records of the miners' courts, till they were removed to Tutbury castle in the time of Queen Elizabeth. An intrenchment, which begins at the lower end of the valley, called the Cave, inclosed the town, ending at the great cavern, and forming a semicircle; this is now called the town ditch, but the whole of it cannot easily be traced, having been destroyed in many parts by buildings and the plough. Here, at Burgh, and at Hope, are some chalybeate springs‡.

The celebrated cavern well deserves to be seen, and is visited without danger, and with much less trouble than may be imagined by those who have not gone into it. A rock on the left of the entrance is 75 yards and a quarter high; and directly from the castle wall to the ground, is eighty-nine yards and an half§; the precipice, which slopes down all the way on the left hand from the castle, is above 200 yards long, that on the right 100. The mouth, in which are a few huts of some packthread-spinners, is 40 yards wide, and 14 high. At 150 yards from the entrance you come to the first water, the roof gradually sloping down till it comes within about two feet of the

* Mr. King thinks otherwise, and that the steps leading to the door began on the east side, and went round the corner of the wall. He has paid such attention to these matters in general, and to this place in particular, that I dare not dispute his opinion.

† Mr. King has given a large account of this castle in the 6th vol. of the Arch. p. 247, &c.

‡ Short, p. 277. § Ibid. p. 30.

surface of the stream which passes through the cavern; this water is to be crossed by lying down in a boat filled with straw, which is pushed forward by the guide, who wades through the water. You soon come to a cavern, said to be 70 yards wide, and 40 high, in the top of which are several openings, but the candles will not enable the eye to reach their extent. After crossing the water a second time, (on the guide's back) you come to a cavern, called Roger Rain's House, because there is a continual dropping of water from the roof. At this place you are entertained by a company of fingers, who have taken another path, and ascended to a place called the Chancel, considerably higher than the part you stand on, where, with lights in their hands, they sing various songs. The effect is very striking. In the whole, the water is crossed seven times, but stepping-stones are sufficient, except at the two first. In one place, the stream is lost in a quicksand, but emerges again. At the distance of about 750 yards from the entrance, the rock came down so close to the water, that it precluded all farther passage; but as there was reason to believe from the sound, that there was a cavern beyond, about four years ago a gentleman determined to try if he could not dive under the rock, and rise in the cavern beyond; he plunged in, but, as was expected, struck his head against the rock, fell motionless to the bottom, and was dragged out with difficulty. The man who shews this place, has been at much trouble and some expence in blowing up the rock, to open a passage to this supposed cavern, but finds that he has mistaken the course, and now means to try in another part. He treated us with an explosion, which rolled like thunder. The water which is found here, is supposed to be that which is ingulphed by the side of the turnpike road, three miles from Castleton, in the way to Chapel in Frith, just by a farm-house.

On coming out of the cavern, after having been so long absent from day-light, the first appearance of it has an effect beyond description; I know not whether a comparison of it with the break of day under a grey sky, interspersed with fleecy clouds, will convey an adequate idea, but no one can see it without feeling a most pleasing sensation.

At the foot of Mam Torr is another cavern, called Water Hull, into which the good-natured Ciceroni will probably endeavour to prevail on the traveller to descend; the descent, however, is very dirty and difficult, and there is not any thing at the bottom worth seeing. They get out of it some blue-john, used by the polishers for making vases, &c. and petrifications, amongst which are some exactly resembling the bones and shells of fishes of various sorts, cockles, oysters, pectunculi, patellæ, and the nautilus; bodies like the vertebræ, snails, stars, skrews, and various striated figures, and pieces of the capsulæ of insects, like those of butterflies.

I was told by one who had been in it, that there is, at some distance on the other side of the castle, a cavern in a mine, which if it was not for the very great difficulty of access, would be well worth visiting; from his description it seemed to resemble, in miniature, the famous grotto of Antiparos, in the Archipelago; but, like that, would require an uncommon share of resolution in the visitor.

The hills on the different sides of the town produce stone of very different quality. Those on the south, on one of which the castle stands, furnish a stone which is burnt into lime, and is used for a manure; those on the north yield a grit-stone fit for building. The hill on the north appears brown and barren when viewed at a distance, but is, in fact, very good pasture; the Yorkshire drovers bring their cattle here in the beginning of May, and keep them all the summer, paying about thirty shillings a head for their feed. It is not very easy to ascend this hill, but it is worth the labour; Castleton dale spreads as you ascend, and on gaining the summit, a sequestered valley, called

called Edale, opens to the eye in a beautiful manner; it is wide and fertile, the inclosures running up the sides of the hills, and yearly increasing. Other small dales come into it from between other hills, and their verdure is contrasted by the brown tops of the yet uncultivated ridges. Near the end of one of these is the principle part of the village of Edale, and an humble chapel, without spire or tower. A rivulet runs down by it, shewing itself in many places, and by the noise of its fall, directs to a mill placed in a little grove. Two or three other clumps of houses, and small tufts of trees, and another streamlet falling into this, enliven the scene. From hence various other dales branch off to what is called the Woodland of Derbyshire, through which no high road has yet been made. This tract is of great extent, but much of it has been cleared of late, and the plough introduced by the Duke of Devonshire, to whom it mostly belongs.

Oats is the only corn they sow on the hills, which they do three years together, if the land is in good condition, otherwise but two, and then lay it down into grass for six or seven years. When they break up new ground on the hills, they used to lime it only, which is found to kill the heath, and produces a new, sweet grass; but they now generally denshire (i. e. pare and burn the sward), plow it for turnips, then sow oats and grass-feed. Some put on lime after it is laid down into grass, others in the turnip crop.

The hill which I have just mentioned as dividing Castleton-dale from Edale, consists of a long ridge, terminating towards the west in a broad end, one point of which is called Mam Torr, or the shivering mountain, the foot of which is about a mile from Castleton. On the top of this hill is good mould, two yards deep, then clay three-fourths of a yard; after that a bed of shale, and a row of ironstone, in their turns, for about 20 yards, but the ironstone always thickest, being often a yard, the other not half so much; then begins an intermixture of shale, and a mixt stone, between ironstone and gritstone, in beds of the same thickness, which continues to the foot of the Toor. These strata lie horizontally, in the most exact order. In the upper part it is perpendicular, but in the middle it slopes. On the top it is about 60 yards broad, at the bottom of the running shale, about 400 yards*. West from this is a similar breach in the hill, but smaller, called Little Mam Torr. The perpendicular height of the largest, as measured by a friend of mine, is 456 feet; of the least, 243 feet; but the top of Mam Torr is said to be near 1000 feet above the level of Castleton valley†. On the top and sides of this hill is a camp, supposed to be Roman, of an oblong form, running from N. E. to S. W. the broad end being to the south west, where Mam Torr forms one point, Little Mam Torr the other; the smaller end is to the north-east, on the ridge which continues on towards Loosehill. There has been a double trench all round it, but the south corner is broken off by the falling of the earth at Great Mam Torr, and the west by that at Little Mam Torr. The summit of the hill is not level, but runs in a ridge nearly from west to east, along which is built a stone wall, as a pasture fence, now dividing the camp into two parts. The ascent to it is very steep every way, except at the north-east end, where the ditch crosses the ridge. The principal entrance seems to have been at the west corner, very near the top of Little Mam Torr; but there is a track of an old road leading from Mam Gate, up the north side of the hill, to a gate of about four yards wide at the small end of the camp opposite to the other gateway. There is a third of the same width, towards the north-west side, going down to Edale. Near the north-east corner is a good

* Short, p. 32.

† Whitehurst, p. 153.

spring. At the south-west end are two small mounts within the camp. The trench is about 16 feet wide at bottom, and incloses something more than sixteen acres of ground, the whole circumference being about 1200 yards.

At the foot of Little Mam Torr, near Mam Gate, is a field called Hills Pasture, taking its name from a number of small hillocks irregularly dispersed about it. On the level ground; amongst these, the foundations of several buildings were discovered a few years ago, which were grown over with grass; the stone was taken up and carried away, to be used in other places. The person employed about it says, that the walls were in general from 18 inches to two feet in thickness, composed of stone, which did not seem to have been hewed smooth with a chissel, but dressed with a pick-axe, just sufficiently to make them bed together, without any mortar or cement. There were several door thresholds, but no appearance of any stones marked with fire, to indicate chimnies. These buildings were of various shape and size; one of them was circular, about 24 feet diameter, with an opening for a door-way on the south side; about eight feet west of it was a small building, containing three sides of an oblong square, one end being open. The whole inclosed by a wall, something in the shape of a triangle, but not regular; the longest side about 50 yards. Near this were two other buildings, nearly square, wider at one end than at the other, the smallest end being 12 feet, the other three sides 18 feet each; the small end of one was to the south, of the other to the west; the size of these was exactly the same. At a little distance from the wide end of each, is a heap of stone and rubbish, overgrown with grass, of about six feet long, and one high. There were two other buildings considerably larger, of irregular shape.

Whether these had any relation to the camp, I do not know. Nothing was found to shew the purpose for which they were originally intended, nor is there any remembrance of their being in any other state than they were found on this occasion, nor any tradition concerning them.

From this camp a ditch is carried down the south side of the hill, crosses the valley to Micklow-hill, about three miles off; and from thence, S. E. by S. crossing the Bathom-gate, and a stream that rises at Bradwell, and runs by Brough, it goes in a straight line to Shatton, or Bradwell-edge, about three miles more. It is called the Grey-ditch, and possibly was a *Prætentura*, or fore-fence of the Romans*. On the side of Mam Torr Hill it is very visible; in the valley it is lost in many places, the plough having destroyed it; but from Micklow-hill to Shatton-edge, it is plainly seen. The slope or front is towards Brough; it is about 20 feet high, and 12 broad at top. There is no tradition concerning it, but pieces of swords, spears, spurs, and bridle-bits, have been found on both sides, and very near it, between Bathom-gate and Bradwell-water. Just where it crosses the Bathom-gate, on the east side of it is a large limestone rock, called Idintree, or Edentree. It is said that a King Eddin had a house here, but perhaps it is unnecessary to say that nothing of it remains now. About a hundred yards north of this rock is a saltish spring, very clear and cold, of a purgative quality; many poor people have used it for bathing and drinking, and found it useful in scorbutic and ulcerous complaints. This spring runs into Bradwell-water, at a part of it vulgarly called Birdswash, a little before it joins the Nooe. Perhaps the true name relates to this station, and is, Burgh-wash.

On the point of land formed by the junction of these two small streams, was the Roman station called Brough, or Burgh. The road called Bathom-gate, went from

* Similar to that mentioned in Morton's Natural History of Northamptonshire, p. 526.

hence to Buxton, and is plainly to be seen for about a mile from Brough, running a considerable part of the way in a parallel line with the present road to Smadale, the hedge of a field on the right hand standing on it. After crossing Grey-ditch, it makes a turn to the north-west, probably for the more easy ascending the hill, which is long and steep, and it is then only discovered by the plough till it comes upon the More, about three quarters of a mile on this side Bathom-edge, where it is plainly seen; and on the Buxton side of the edge it is again visible for about a mile, in a direct line towards the inclosures at Chapel in the Forest, and is again found by the plough near Buxton, at which place Mr. Watson found, in 1772, a Roman station, not noticed before, but he does not describe it*. Where it is most entire, it measures eighteen feet over, and is composed of a small cherty, flinty gravel, different from the natural soil, and such as is found on Bradwell and Tidswell-mores. It is raised in the middle, like the modern turnpike road†.

The place at Brough, called the Castle, lies a little to the north of this road, having a communication with it from the south corner. Many foundations of buildings lying on every side of this spot, have been turned up by the plough, but it has been so well levelled within these few years, that none are now to be seen; the stones have been used in building houses and walls in the neighbourhood. Some perfect ones were in a wall inclosing the field; they were of brown grit-stone, the shape of a wedge, about eleven inches long, nine broad at one end, six at the other, and about five thick. Between the castle and the river bricks have been taken up, but none on the other side of the water; on the other side, urns have been found. Mr. Pegge says, that in 1761 he saw the rude busts of Apollo, and another deity, in stone, which had been discovered in the fields here; that a coarse pavement had been dug up, composed of pieces of tile and cement, in the lower of the two fields called Halsteds, at the confluence of Bradwell-brook and the Noce, where were the apparent marks of an oblong square building, the angles of which were of hewn grit-stone. He also found the fragment of a tile, on which the letters O H, part of the word *Cohors*, were remaining.

In a field at the conflux of the two streams, it is in memory that a double row of pillars crossed the point of land, but they have been entirely destroyed some time. Old people say they were of grit-stone, and that three persons could walk abreast between them. At a gate by the road side, just before coming to the mill, on the left of the gate I saw a base, and part of a column of brown stone.

There have been frequently found pieces of swords, spears, bridle-bits, coins, and pieces of pavement, composed of small bits of brick and pebble stones, strongly cemented with lime, great numbers of whole and broken bricks, with letters on them, and tiles. John Wilson, esquire, of Broomhead-hall, near Sheffield, is said to be possessed of several specimens of the bricks, one of them entire, eight inches long, seven and three

* Arch. v. iii. p. 237.

† Mr. Pegge's account of the Roman roads in Derbyshire, which I have seen since writing the above, says, that at the Dam of the Forest (i. e. Chapel in the Forest) a few yards within the lane, called Hernstone-lane, it enters the inclosures on the left hand, where we could discern its course in the month of June very plainly, by the different colour of the grass, till it entered that straight lane that goes to Fairfield. Afterwards it winds to the left hand, towards Fairfield, and proceeds by that village to Buxton, where it finally ends. He observes, that there is no trace of a road to the north or north-east of Brough, and therefore concludes that it was only for a communication between that place and Buxton. But Mr. Watson, in his account of Melandra castle, in the parish of Glossop, in Derbyshire, says there is a road to it from Brough, which is called the Doctor's-gate, and that it goes from thence to a place in Yorkshire, called the Doctor's lane Head, where it joined the great Roman way from Manchester to York.—Arch. v. iii. p. 237.

quarters broad, one and three quarters thick, with the letters C. H.* very fairly impressed in the middle; and a broken one, on which the letter C. remains. He is said

to have also the rim of an urn, found here, with these letters on it



the T R

being in smaller characters; and a piece of a patera of fine red earth. About seven or eight years ago there were found two large urns full of ashes; the urns were well preserved, and were sent to some gentlemen in London. Another was found two years ago, full of ashes, of the colour of fern ashes; the man who found it, broke it to see what it was made of. A piece of it I now have. A few years ago there was turned up by the plough a half-length figure of a woman, with her arms folded across her breast, cut in a rough grit-stone. It was sold to a gentleman near Bakewell.

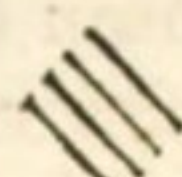
In the spring 1780, there was found at the north corner of the castle a baking stone, such as is now used in the country for baking oat-bread.

Opposite to the Station, on the south side of the Bradwell-water, are a few houses, retaining the name of Brough; where the streams join is a mill, and a little below it a bridge, leading towards Sheffield, over the river which retains the name of the Nooe.

The common people say, that King Peverell had a house at Brough; this King Peverell means William Peverell, mentioned before; his father, in the second year of his reign, gave him Nottingham castle†.

On examination, a gentleman tells me, it does not seem that there have been any fortifications on Will-hill and Loose-hill, though the tradition is, that a bloody battle was fought near them by two armies, which encamped thereon, but when, or by whom, is not known. The appearance is nothing more than some ditches; whether used for fences, or a slight temporary defence, I know not. There are heaps of earth raised by the rubbish thrown out of some stone quarries. It is not known that any instruments of war have been found here; but about the year 1778, or 1779, on removing a large heap of stones, a little to the eastward of Winhill-pike, an urn was found under them; it was made of clay badly baked, the workmanship very rude. It is said to have been made like a flower-pot, about half an inch thick at top, not so

much in the middle, the sides scratched, as plaisterers do their under-coats, thus, 

other part with slanting strokes only, thus, . It stood on the surface of the

ground, the top covered with a flat stone, and over it the heap of stones was rudely piled up in the form of a hay-cock. It is not remembered whether ashes or bones were found in it. Some parts of it are in Mr. Wilson's possession.

About a mile north-east of the Netherbooth, in Edale, what was called a Druid's Altar, was destroyed a few years ago, for the sake of the stone.

It was in a rough, heathy pasture, called the Nether-more, on the summit of a hill, descending on three sides to the depth of a quarter of a mile, but on the fourth side is a level ground of 30 or 40 acres, at the end of which, and at the foot of another mountain, is a ditch, the slope or front of which is towards that other mountain, and is about eight feet; the top, or crown, is about five feet broad, the bottom about six feet. This ditch is about 660 yards long, a rivulet crossing each end of it. The altar

* Qu. If not C O H.

† Dugd. Bar. v. i. p. 436.

was circular, about 66 feet diameter, composed of rough stones of various sizes, rudely piled together, without mortar or cement, in the form of a hay-cock, about 18 feet in perpendicular height. The top was hollow, in the form of a basin, about four feet deep, and six feet in diameter; the stone on the inside of this basin was black, and much burned, as if large fires had been often made in it. There is not the least appearance of any tool having been used on the stones, but they seem to have been taken from the surface of the hill on the other side the ditch, where there are now lying great quantities of loose ones of the same sort. What is in the ground immediately about the altar, differs in hardness, grit, and colour. As much has been carried away from this pile, as has built a pasture wall 40 roods long (seven yards to the rood) six feet high, 20 inches thick at bottom, and 10 at top, but some hundred loads yet remain. No part of the earth at bottom has yet been cleared, so that it is not known whether there is any thing under it, which would lead to a discovery of the use for which it was intended, but other similar ones have been removed entirely, and nothing found.

The basin at the top, and the marks of fire, would seem to shew that this was a beacon, but the hill on the other side the ditch is higher, and being so near, would have been used for that purpose, especially as the stone used in the construction was to be carried from thence to this place. The ditch too was certainly meant for more than a common pasture fence, if indeed any fences were made for cattle on the tops of hills in early times.

A few years ago a large stone lying on the side of the hill, on the right of the village of Edale, was removed, and under it were found 15 or 16 beads, about two inches diameter, and the thickness of the stem of a large tobacco-pipe; one was of amber, the rest of glass, some black and white, others of different colours. Most of them were sent to Cambridge. These were amulets, used by the Druids; Pliny says, they wore them as a badge of distinction, and tells a very ridiculous story of the manner of taking them; but according to Camden (or his continuator) there is a like superstition about this matter still subsisting in most parts of Wales, throughout all Scotland, and in Cornwall. He says, it is there "the common opinion of the vulgar, that about Midsummer Eve (though in the time they do not all agree) it is usual for snakes to meet in companies, and that by joining heads together and hissing, a kind of bubble is formed, like a ring, about the head of one of them, which the rest, by continual hissing, blow on till it comes off at the tail, and then it immediately hardens, and resembles a glass ring, which whoever finds (as some old women and children are persuaded) shall prosper in all his undertakings. The rings thus generated "are called *Gleinen Nadroedh*; in English, snake-stones. They are small glass amulets, commonly about half as wide as our finger rings, but much thicker, of a green colour usually, though some of them are blue, and others curiously waved with blue, red, and white*." He adds, that some quantity of them, together with some amber beads, had been lately discovered at a stone-pit near Garvord, in Berks, where a battle had been fought between the Romans and Britons. He thinks they were used as amulets by the Druids.

The opinion of the Cornish is somewhat differently given by Mr. Carew, who says, "the country people in Cornwall have a persuasion that the snakes here breathing upon a hazel wand, produce a stone ring of blue colour, in which there appears the yellow figure of a snake; and that beasts which are stung, being given some water to drink wherein this stone has been foked, will recover†." Some of them have been found in Northamptonshire‡.

* Cam. v. ii. p. 64.

† Survey of Cornwall, p. 216.

‡ Morton's Natural History, p. 499.

Dr. Borlase mentions what is said by these authors, without telling us whether the notion still continues, but it seems as if it did.

The top of the hill, on the left of the village, is full of bogs, the other hills hereabouts are found.

Castleton, is a royal manor, leased to the duke of Devonshire. Lady Massareene has considerable property here, and particularly a lease from the crown of a large tract of ground which has been inclosed, and is now good land.

A level is driving through a hill between the castle and Mam Torr, in the King's Fields, which is carried on in the manner of the duke of Bridgewater's, at Worley-mill, and under the direction of Mr. Gilbert, his manager there; but the canal here is all under ground, and is only used to convey the rubbish of it as it is dug, to a place where it may be got rid of; at first this was done by conveying it to the mouth of the shaft, and drawing it up in buckets, but they have since found cavities in the rocks under ground, large enough to take off any quantity. The shaft is sunk about ten yards deep, and by conveying the water into chasms in the rock, they avoided the necessity of carrying it through the grounds of the freeholders. A flight of wide stone steps leads down to the water, which is literally a subterraneous navigation, no part of it being above ground. Eight men are employed, who work about a fathom in a week; in 1777 they had finished about 400 yards, and had about 500 more to do. The expence is about 50 shillings a yard, but no difficulty, no danger, no expence, can damp the ardour of undertakers in this business. Between Matlock and Rooseley one is carrying on through the hill near Darley-bridge, towards Yowlgrave, which had cost 10,000*l.* when scarce a third of it was done. This is through a rock of such hardness, that tools will scarcely touch it, and the whole is performed by the process of blasting with gunpowder; and even this is so impeded by the great quantity of water and moisture, that the powder must be inclosed in tin pipes.

By the custom of the miners, any one who finds a spot unworked, which he thinks likely to produce a vein of lead, though in another man's field*, may put down a little wooden cross, called a Stoter, and enter his name with the proper officer, who sets out a certain number of meers (a meer is twenty-nine yards) and he is then at liberty to work it, sink pits, and lay the rubbish about sixteen yards on each side as he proceeds. If he does not work it, and another has a mind to try his fortune, he goes to the officer, tells him such a spot is not worked, and desires him to nick it; the officer, with a jury of twenty-four, who are sworn for the purpose of attending to this business, go to the spot, cut a nick in the cross, and give notice to the first undertaker, that they shall go again at such a time, for the same purpose. If no notice is taken, they go a second and third time, after which the property is vested in the new adventurer, subject to the same rules.

The lead ore, when brought out of the mine, is broken with heavy hammers on a stone, called a knock-stone, and is then put into a wooden sieve, and rinsed in a large tub; the ore falls through, and leaves the lighter rubbish, which is skimmed off, thrown out at a hole in the wall, and thence taken to the buddle, where it is rinsed again by a small current of water, the lead falling to the bottom. What is carried down by the current, is washed once more in the same manner, and the deposit here, which is almost

* A remarkable case of this sort happened lately. The owner of a field employed a man by the great, to get stone in his field. The latter employed labourers by the day, who found a vein of lead. This man, the labourers, and the owner of the field, made their separate claims; in the Barmoot Court it was adjudged to the man who took the work by the great, the day labourers being only considered as his servants.

as fine as flour, is called belland. The beating and first rining is done by women, who work nine hours in the day, and earn about seven-pence. The men earn about eight shillings a week.

After all this is gone through, an officer, known by the name of the Barmister, comes on behalf of the lord of the manor, and takes the proportion due to him, which is, in some places, every tenth, in some every thirteenth, in others every twentieth or twenty-fifth dish; till this is done, none can be removed or sold. A dish, or hoppet, is a peck, or sixteen pints in the High Peak, and fourteen in the Low; nine dishes make a load, and four of these a horse load. When the dues are thus taken, the ore is carried to the smelting-house, and run into pieces, two of which are called a pig, and weigh about eleven stone. Sixteen pieces make a fother, the weight of which is different according to the market it is designed for; to London, nineteen hundred and a half; to Hull, twenty-four hundred; to other places, the medium between these two. The price is, however, the same, and this difference in the weight is made to answer the expence of carriage, which is paid by the seller. On an average the fother is worth 13l. 15s. The lead is mostly carried to the navigation near Rotherham, or to Chesterfield, to be sent to market.

Pieces of ore of about the size of nutmegs, are called bing; a smaller sort, pesey; in a still smaller state it is called smitham. Some years ago the miners contended, that toll was not to be taken of this last; but as they had it in their power to reduce as much as they pleased to that size, and would have annihilated the toll, the duke of Devonshire, who is lessee of the crown throughout the High Peak, tried the question, and succeeded. By this determination he is entitled to the thirteenth dish of the whole, but he takes no more than a twenty-fifth, except occasionally, to assert his right. Mr. Rows, who is lessee of the crown in the Low Peak, has had the same dispute, but takes the thirteenth.

The ore is run into pieces, either in smelting-houses, or cupola's. The latter were introduced about 1730, and are considered as less prejudicial to the health of the workmen, than the former, but smelting-houses are still used. The smoke of the lead produces palsies, consumptions, the byon, which resembles a quinsy, and a disorder in the bowels, called the belland, and which affects cattle that feed on the grass or heath contaminated by the smoak; it gives a sweetness to the herbage, and makes them eat it greedily, but the proprietors of the smelting-houses are often forced to pay damages for cattle which are killed by it.

A charge of lead which is 18 hundred weight, takes up from seven to ten hours in smelting. Two men are employed about it, the pay of the first is 1s. 3d. of the second 1s. For such trifling sums do men undertake such unwholesome employments!

Disputes between miners are tried at the Barmoot Court, which is held about Lady-Day and Michaelmas, and at any intermediate time, if required. At the general courts, a jury of 24 working-miners is sworn, who are summoned when a special court is called, and twelve make a jury to try the cause. A special jury of holders of mines may be had, if demanded. On complaint to the court, the twenty-four view the matter in dispute, and give their opinion; if either party is dissatisfied, a trial is had before the steward of the court, who is the judge, and council often attend. If the verdict is not satisfactory, the matter is removed to Westminster-hall; in cases of importance this is generally done.

People often undertake to drive a fough, to carry off the water from their own, or others, mines. If they relieve the mine of another, they are entitled to a certain proportion

portion of all the ore got in that mine after it is cleaned; sometimes so much as one-sixth. If, in carrying on the work they hit on a vein of lead, they frequently find that it is within the meers of some other miner, and then they are obliged to account for the produce.

Six miles beyond Tidswell is the little village of Fairfield, (a chapelry of Hope) and a mile beyond that is Buxton, whose bath has been celebrated from the time of the Romans, and to this day continues to afford relief to the afflicted. He who is racked by the gout or rheumatism, or deprived of the use of his limbs by those painful disorders, here finds his cure, and hangs up his votive crutch.

It is seated in a bottom, and the resort of company to the bath has made it grow into the size of a small town; but it is, as mentioned before, a township of Bakewell.

The bath is at a house called The Hall, is of a temperate heat, equal to new milk, or that of one's own blood; it is in a room ten yards long, five and a half wide, and about the same height. There is a stone bench along one end and side of it, for the use of the bathers, and at each corner are steps to go down into it. It is 26 feet six inches long, 12 feet eight inches broad, four feet nine inches deep at one end, and six inches less at the other. The bottom is paved with smooth flags. On the backside lies a rock of solid black limestone, or a kind of bastard marble. The two chief springs rise up through this rock, but several lesser springs rise up all over the bath, through chinks in the rock, and the seams in the pavement. The surface of the water is covered with a steam, which, however, does not rust iron. The level, by which the bath is emptied, was made by Mr. White in 1697, at which time he made the outer bath, where the old kitchen stood; he also made a fough, to carry off the cold springs, that they might not rise in the bath, and chill the water. The outer bath is seventeen feet long, ten feet two inches wide, and four feet six inches deep, and is filled from the inner bath. The springs will fill them both in two hours and eight minutes*.

That the poor might not be deprived of the benefit of these (and Bath) waters, by the severe laws made in Queen Elizabeth's time for regulating the poor, and confining them to their own parishes, and yet that this might not be made a pretence for idle vagabonds, it is provided, in an act made in her 39th year, that none coming hither, or to Bath, should beg, but should have relief from their parishes, and a pass from two justices, fixing the time of their return.

The water is sulphureous and saline, yet not foetid, but very palatable, because the sulphur is not united with any vitriolic particles, or but very few saline; it tinges not silver, nor is purgative, by reason the saline parts are in such small proportions. If drank, it creates a good appetite, and is prescribed in scorbutic rheumatisms, and consumption†.

St. Anne's well, which furnishes the water that is drank, is on the other side of the late turnpike-road, under a small stone alcove, built by sir Thomas Delves, who had received a cure here‡; but that is now taken down, and a more elegant one built in its room. St. Anne had formerly a chapel dedicated to her in this place.

This bath was used by the Romans, and the remains of their road are visible at Fairfield, pointing towards the station at Burgh, or Brough, mentioned before. In Dr. Leigh's time, a wall was to be seen cemented with red Roman plaister, close by St.

* Short, p. 42.

† Leigh, b. i. p. 31, 32, 33.

‡ Stukeley's Itin. Cur. v. i. p. 56.

Anne's well, with the ruins of the ancient bath, its dimensions, and length; he says, the plaister was red, and hard as brick, a mixture not prepared in these days, and appeared as if it was burnt, exactly resembling tile*. This well rose into a stone basin, within a Roman brick wall, a yard square within, and a yard high on three sides†; this wall was destroyed in 1709, when the arch over that spring was built by sir Thomas Delves. About 1697, as Mr. White was driving up a level to the bath, 50 yards east of St. Anne's well, and 14 north of Bingham spring, the workmen found, buried deep under the grass and corn-mould, sheets of lead spread upon great pieces of timber, about four yards square, with broken ledges round about, which had been a leaden cistern, and not unlikely that of the Romans, at least of some ancient bath, which had been supplied with water from Bingham well. The first good house for the accommodation of visitors, was built not long before 1572 (when Dr. Jones published a treatise on these waters) by the earl of Shrewsbury. This was demolished about 1670, by the then earl of Devonshire, and a new house built. At this time a register of cures, which had been long kept here, was destroyed, with all the votive crutches, which hung on the walls‡.

Bingham, or Mr. Leigh's well, is a very strong, warm spring, rising out of the black limestone, in a very dry ground, about 63 yards south, and south-east of St. Anne's well. It is not always equally strong, but in a great drought discharged 1758 gallons of water in an hour§. There is in the same close a hot and cold spring, 20 yards south-east of St. Anne's; and a little east of this, on the east side of a stone wall, is another small, flow, hot spring, which mixes with a cold one, rising up close by it. Another warm spring rises in the stream of the level, which carries the water from the bath; and on the south of this stream rise two other warm springs||.

Dr. Short computes, that the four warm springs together, throw forth in a year 97 millions, 681 thousand 860 gallons of water, exclusive of the waste that gets out of the bath, the strong spring in the middle of the bath level, what rises in the hot and cold spring, and the two small warm springs in the low ground, with several other ooziings of warm water in different places, the whole of which added, might nearly double the quantity¶.

On the north side the brook, opposite to the hall, is a chalybeate spring, which, mixed with the water of St. Anne's, or Bingham well, is a gentle purgative**.

Besides the hall, there are two large houses on the hill for the reception of company, the White Hart, and the Eagle, with some other smaller ones; but so great has been the resort for many years, that the duke of Devonshire, who is owner of the bath, has at length determined to provide still further accommodation. He has accordingly begun to build in the bottom, near the hall, and is about to erect another inn, a large assembly room, and some private houses, which are to form a crescent. The foundations are laying (1780), and in digging them, another warm spring has been discovered, in which the water bubbles up with considerable force; near it was found the corner of a building of squared stone, supposed to have been the work of the Romans. It might have been supposed, that as the present bath is not near large enough to accommodate the company conveniently, and a greater resort must be expected when the buildings are completed, they would have gladly availed themselves of this additional bath; unfortunately they have not. A grove of trees, which could ill be spared, has been cut down, to make

* Leigh, b. iii. p. 42.

† Short's Mineral Waters, p. 23.

‡ Ibid. p. 49.

§ Ibid. p. 50.

|| Ibid. p. 39.

¶ Ibid. p. 51.

** Ibid. p. 229.

room for these alterations. The turnpike road is turned, so as not to go between the hall and the new building, as it used to do, but now goes round the crescent, and comes into the town at the top of the hill. The stone used in these buildings is got on the duke's estate, about two miles off, and makes a handsome appearance.

The duke's expence is calculated to be from 30 to 50,000*l.* but this is much short of what was originally proposed to have been done. A wide street was to have been built in the front of the hall, (which was also to have been much enlarged) with a colonade on each side up to it, and the whole was to have been made commodious and magnificent. The avarice of an individual prevented the execution of the plan; a small field of two acres, which was not the duke's property, lay intermixed with what was his, and without it the work could not be carried into execution. The owner thought he might avail himself of this circumstance to any extent, and that the duke must buy, whatever price he should set on it; he demanded 2000*l.* for his two acres. He was offered 1200*l.* or more, but refusing it, the design was changed, and the present plan adopted in its room. By this means his two acres remain of the original value of any other two acres near the place, which must be rated very high, to make them come to much more than 100*l.* Disappointed in that scheme he is now trying another; he is sinking to intercept the hot spring, which he fancies rises in his ground, and descends from thence to the hall.

The curate of the place reads prayers at the hall twice a day, and a subscription is made for him. Here, as at Matlock, a shilling a piece is paid for dinner, and the same for supper. Whoever happens to be at the head of the table, collects one shilling from every new comer on his first appearance, for the benefit of the poor; the same is done at the other houses, and the whole amounts to a handsome sum in the season.

The situation of this place is the reverse of Matlock, the scenery of which you look for in vain. The hills are dreary, and the summit of one does little more than shew the summit of another equally bare. The Wye, which runs from hence by Bakewell, is in its infancy, being formed by the junction of three small springs a mile west from the hall*.

About half a mile from Buxton, on the right of the Ashbourn road, is a large hill, where they get limestone, and burn it into lime, which is more fit for manure than building, outer walls especially; for being exposed to the air and weather, it soon moulders, and peels off†. Lower down, nearer the bath, are different sorts of stone, the lime from which becomes so hard after working, that it becomes as hard as stone, and is not injured by air or weather. Of the limestone here, there are nine or ten different sorts, some of which lying nearest to the hall, are very full of sulphur, and being broke or struck with a hammer, smell strongly of it. Most of the jet black sort are of a very irregular figure, full of great knobs, or lumps, the least bit whereof broke off, sends forth an insufferable smell; it contains much solid bitumen, and seems as though it were forcibly melted sulphur and stone powder, thrown up by the vehemence of a subterranean fire, and condensed under the earth's surface. This is an observation made by Dr. Short‡, before the idea was started of volcanoes being to be found in a great number of places where there is no tradition of any. This gentleman observes, that most of the limestone in the Peak abounds with shells of cockles, oysters,

* Short, p. 24.

† Ibid.

‡ Ibid.

and escallops, but none so much as this place and Stony Middleton; he contends, however, that they are not real shells, but only resemblances of them*. There are seven or eight kilns worked in the summer, which burn from 120 to 300 horse loads in two days, sold at 4d. or 4d $\frac{1}{2}$. the load. It is sometimes carried away in small carts, which hold about four horse loads each. Five men join in taking a kiln, and give 5l. a year rent for it. They work at the mines in the winter. The heaps of rubbish from the kilns, which are scattered over the sides of the hill, grow into a firm consistence, and in them the workmen scoop out habitations, which must be comfortably warm, as there are no crevices to let in the air. At the distance of a mile from hence, or less, on the Staffordshire side, the soil changes, and instead of a limestone rock covered with verdant turf, the surface is heath, under that a black, moory soil, and under that a brownish earth, full of loose, crumbling stones; lead in some places, some iron-stone, and some sulphur†; and a little farther are coal-pits, where coal is got, which is used in burning the lime.

Under this hill is the cavern called Poole's Hole, reputed one of the wonders of the Peak; but no one who has seen the cavern at Castleton, will find it worth the trouble of going into. The entrance is by an arch, so low, that you must stoop at going in, but it soon rises to a considerable height. There are hollows, which are called by the names of Poole's chamber, cellar, &c. and the droppings from the roof form masses of stone, which may be supposed to represent fret-work, organ and choir-work, the figures of animals, a chair, flitches of bacon, &c. When Mary, Queen of Scots, was at Buxton, she went as far as a pillar, which has ever since gone by her name, and few go farther; but beyond this is a steep ascent for near a quarter of a mile, which terminates near the roof in a hollow, called the Needle's Eye, in which a candle being placed, it represents a star. The passage is rugged, slippery, and difficult.

Near this cave are found hexagonal crystals, the angles and sides complete, but of a bad colour, none quite transparent, and not so hard as Bristol stones; their points scratch glass, but presently break off. In the year 1756 a gentleman in his walks observed some little risings on the rocks, which appeared like ant-hills; he opened some, and found they consisted of a perfect arch, drawn up, as he imagined, by the exhalation of the sun; in them was first formed a thin bed of dirty coloured spar, and upon that a regular cluster, or bed of these crystals‡. Dr. Short says, all these are formed in the winter, and the more stormy and colder that is, the larger and harder the petrifications.

About a mile from Buxton, in the Ashbourn road, on the left hand, is a hill, called Staden Low, marked by a thorn growing on the top. Between the road and that is the square vallum, with the circle adjoining, mentioned by Dr. Stukeley. The ground there has been inclosed and ploughed since he visited it; but though the plough has levelled the banks, the shape was as clearly to be distinguished in 1779 as it ever was. It was then a field of oats. He supposes the circle to have been for shews, and says, it is 160 feet diameter. The vallum he speaks of in one place, as being 50 feet on each side, but revisiting it, he calls it 100, the ditch inward. On the point of the circle, farthest from the square, he says, there was a little semicircular cove of earth. He speaks of barrows on the tops of the hills§; but perhaps means two beacons, which are on the points of two hills not far off.

* Short, p. 28.

† Ibid. p. 24.

‡ Literary Magazine, 1757.

§ Itin. v. ii. p. 26.

Under Staden Low, to the north, the rocks between which the river runs, form a tremendous precipice, called the Lover's-leap; the particular history from whence it got this name I do not know, nor did I hear of any modern exploit of the sort. This, with the Marvel Stones, Chee Torr, and the Druids' Temple near Newhaven, are all the things within a morning's ride from Buxton which I know of.

To go to the Marvel Stones, after passing through Fairfield turnpike, take a bye-road over the common, on the left, and keep the road to Chapel in Frith a little way, then take a lane on the right, which points straight to a part of the turnpike road from Manchester, by Chapel in Forest and Tidswell, to Sheffield, over which the Bathomgate on the moor above, is plainly seen in a line to the edge of the hill. About three miles from Buxton, and two before coming to Chapel in the Forest, these stones are in a pasture on the right of the road, on the side of a small hill inclining to the south. It is a rock of about 180 feet long, and 80 broad in the widest part; it does not anywhere rise more than three feet above the surface of the ground. The face of it is deeply indented with innumerable channels or gutters, of various length, breadth, shape, and depth; from nine inches to 30 feet long; from five inches to five feet wide. There are also a great number of holes, some round, some of an irregular shape, from the size of a small basin to that of a large kettle; after rains these are full of water, till exhaled by the sun. The channels, or gutters, generally run north and south, but none of them go quite across the stone; there is always some seam or ridge of the rock terminating the channel, and in a few inches another channel commences, which is also crossed by another seam or ridge. These seams or ridges are from four inches to four feet broad, but there can hardly be found four feet square without a hole or a channel. The stone is not jointed, or of a loose kind, but one hard, firm rock. At the east and west ends are a great number of irregular shaped stones, standing a few inches from each other, the interspaces filled with earth, which is covered with grass; perhaps, if the earth was removed, it would be found that these are parts of the same rock.

This, I believe, is what Dr. Stukeley means, when he mentions having heard of some marvel stones near Hope, which he supposes to have been druidical, but did not see; if he had, he would not have formed that supposition, the whole being certainly the work of nature.

From hence, looking over the moor towards Tidswell, a white heap is seen, called the Tong, where, under earth and stones, quantities of human bones are found; and in a pasture, called Perry, in this Peak-forest, a very great quantity has been discovered under a bank several yards in length; they are in general found. There is another of these collections of bones in a pasture, called Harrod-low, in the same forest, and one on Wormhill-moor. There is no tradition concerning them that I can learn.

Chapel in the Forest is a little village, in the road from Manchester to Tidswell, and is so called from being seated in what was once the Peak-forest. There is a farm-house in a good clump of trees (almost the only ones) said to have been a lodge; now called the Chamber. Near the village is a large flat, once covered with water, the middle now grown up with rushes and flags, called the Forest Dam. A Miss Bower, who lately died here, left her harpsicord to the church, with a salary of about twenty pounds a year for a man to play it, and find coals to air it, for which use a chimney is built. A house for the musician is building, the parsonage decaying. Her mother lengthened the church at the east end, and made a very handsome stone front there, with a Venetian window,

window, fashed. She also designed a monument for her daughter, but dying before it was put up, it is not finished. This chapel was famous for the celebration of marriages before the act took place.

Chee Torr lies on the right of the road from Buxton to Tidswell, about five miles from the former. At the fourth mile-stone you leave the turnpike, and go under the wall of a plantation, to the village of Wormhill. Here is a good house belonging to Mr. Bagshaw, whose elder brother ornamented his grounds and the village green with many plantations. An honest shoe-maker has opened a summer coffee-house here, and will be your guide to the rocks. Descending a very steep hill, you come to the river Wye, at a place where it receives two additional springs in its way to Bake-well, and where its current takes up nearly all the space between the rocks, which seem to have been forced asunder. One of them is said to be 360 feet high; it does not appear so high as Matlock Great Torr, but it is perpendicular, and not broken by trees. This valley (if it may be so called) is winding, and you do not see the whole at once.

A mile to the left of a public house, called Newhaven, 11 miles from Buxton, in the way to Ashbourn, is a circle of stones, supposed to be of the Druids. A circular bank of earth, raised to a considerable height, encloses an area of about 50 yards over; towards the east, or south-east, it is much higher than in the other parts, that part of it being formed by a large barrow. The ditch is within side. On the area was a circle of stones, all of which are thrown down; whether they are all there I cannot say, but I reckoned them to be 32, adding such pieces as appeared to have been broken off by the fall, to those which they seemed to have belonged to when entire. In the centre are three large stones, also thrown down. The entrance is at the north, or north-west side, and seems to lead to these three stones. They are of the same sort of rock as the marvel-stones, at Smalldale, and were probably brought from a quarry, which there is of this kind, about three miles off. It is not easy to form a conjecture of the original height or size, as they are all thrown down, many, if not all, broken, and some seem deeper buried in the earth than others, but perhaps seven or eight feet may be about their length. I am inclined to think there was but one circle, and that what, in one place, gives the appearance of a second, or inner circle, is only occasioned by the fragments broken off the larger ones in their fall. West or south-west of the great barrow, is a smaller one, at a little distance from the bank, called Arbourlow; from it many others are seen on the tops of the adjacent hills, and one very large one about half a mile off, called Endlow. In this last, ashes and burnt bones have been found. They all have a basin on the top, and wherever there is a barrow, the hill is called a Low, with some addition prefixed to it.

From Buxton, returning to Tidswell, take the road to Sheffield, over the high and barren moors, of which there is a long succession. By going through Stony Middleton, one very long and steep hill is avoided. Passing the river at Grindleford bridge, the first ascent is through a scrubby wood of oaks, called Yarncliff, where a stream rushes down a deep woody glen on the left. On gaining the top, see the rude and rough ridges of rock on the moor on the left, called Millstone Edge, from the mill-stones dug there.

On this moor are some things well deserving to be seen, though little spoken of. The traveller hastens from so dreary a spot, and does not think of its affording any entertainment; and indeed he ought to take a guide, if he means to look for what I am about to mention, lest he should get into a bog. At the top of the hill above Yarn-cliff,

cliff, turn on the left, and on the point of a hill called Great Owlar-Torr, is a heap of large stones piled up one against another; on the top I found three rock-basons perfect, and one which had been broken off. Not far from this a vast stone is seen peeping over the edge of a hill, and appearing to be placed on a smaller; on going to it, I found it to be one very great stone, perhaps 20 feet high. There is a broad base to the height of six or seven feet, the body then becomes smaller, and is covered with a cap, hanging over, so that you cannot get on the top.

To the right of this is a fortification, called the Carle's Work, but of what people or age is not known. It may seem to have some resemblance of the huge and shapeless structure of stones, mentioned by Tacitus to have been raised by Caractacus, when he headed the Silures against the Romans*. On its first appearance, a stone wall of eight or nine feet high, seeming to be pretty regularly made, is seen crossing a neck of land, lying higher than the adjoining part of the moor and which is full of loose stones. On coming to it, the stones which compose the wall are found to be very large, but regularly piled, and covered at the back with a sloping bank of earth. Keeping to the right hand, the ground is of an irregular shape, inclosed by a fence of stones, rudely placed; sometimes a great stone, in its natural position, forms the defence, in other places smaller ones are piled between, or on, large ones. In the side which looks towards Chatworth, is an entrance or gateway, opening inwards, with two flanks. The wall first mentioned looks towards Great Owlar Torr. Instead of returning to the turnpike road, you may go forward, and come in at a smelting mill, to another turnpike road, which comes from Castleton, by Hathersage, to Sheffield. Here was a rocking-stone, very lately destroyed by the barbarous hands of an ignorant turnpike surveyor, or mason. Hathersage lies a little below, on the left, on the sharp descent of the hill. The church stands at the upper end of the town, and is a handsome one, with a good spire; above it is a place called Camp-green, being a high and pretty large circular mound of earth, inclosed by a deep ditch.

After passing some miles over these barren moors, begin to descend towards Sheffield.

This town has been for some centuries famous for the iron trade, which is here carried on in various sorts of work to an astonishing extent. The rivers Sheff and Dun meet near the town, but the navigation does not come quite up to it; however, it is used to carry the goods to Hull. It is reckoned that there are 40,000 inhabitants, all industrious and fully employed. The number of smiths and cutlers living in these parts in the time of Henry VIII. is noticed by Leland; and the cutlers of Hallamshire (the name for this part of Yorkshire) are a corporation by act of parliament, 21 James I. The grinders have high wages, owing partly to their skill, and the nicety requisite in finishing edge tools, partly to the danger of their employment from the breaking of the stones, which sometimes fly in pieces from the velocity of their motion. The breaking of a stone used to be almost certainly fatal; but the danger is now greatly lessened by placing a strong band, chained with a very thick iron chain, over that part of the stone which is next the workman; by this means, if it does break, it can only fly forwards. These grindstones are turned by a set of wheels, which are moved by one water-wheel, and have different degrees of velocity; that of the finisher is such, that the eye scarce sees it move.

A great deal of business is done in silver, and in plating with silver; the former is likely to be much increased by their getting an assay in the town, which they and some

* Gordon's Tacitus, v. 2. p. 54, 55.

other places obtained in the year 177 . - Before that they were obliged to send all their silver goods to London to be assayed and marked, which was attended with much expence and loss of time.

Here is a silk mill on the model of that at Derby. A new church was built about 30 years ago. Thomas lord Furnival, in 54 Henry III. obtained licence to make a castle of his manor house at Sheffield; and his grandson, in 24 Edward I. had a charter for a weekly market at his manor of Sheffield. By a daughter and heir, this estate, with many others, went into the family of Nevill, in the beginning of the reign of Richard II. and not long after to an only daughter, married to the famous John Talbot, earl of Shrewsbury*. His descendants resided here, had a great estate, and were liberal benefactors to the town. Earl George, who, as mentioned before, had the custody of Mary, Queen of Scots, has a noble monument, which he erected in his lifetime. In the inscription thereon, he speaks of the Queen of Scots being in his custody for 16 years, from 1568 to 1584, and that her entertainment was attended with great expence, and an anxiety not to be expressed†. The funeral of earl Francis, who died at this place in Oct. 1560, was very magnificent, according to the custom of those days. After the service, there was a great dinner at the castle for every one who would come, of three hundred and twenty messes of meat, (besides three for the table of the then earl, who attended the funeral) each mess consisting of eight dishes, two boiled, four roast, and two baked. What was left was given to the poor. Fifty does, and twenty-nine red deer, were killed for this entertainment. The whole ceremony is given in Peck's *Desiderata Curiosa*, v. ii. lib. vii. p. 17. The burial place is in the great church, where there is a noble monument for earl George, husband of the countess, mentioned at Hardwick.

Gilbert, the grandson of earl Francis, died in 1616, leaving three daughters and coheirs, of whom Alethea married Thomas, earl of Arundell, and brought him this and the Workshop estate. From this earl of Arundell it descended to the late duke of Norfolk, who gave the Sheffield estate to the earl of Surrey, (son of the present duke) who is now the owner.

The castle was razed by order of parliament, after the death of Charles I.

Barnsley is the next stage, before which the woods of the marquis of Rockingham are seen on the right, and on the left is Wentworth castle, formerly called Stainborough, the seat of the earl of Strafford. I did not go to this, but the following is Mr. Arthur Young's account of it.

"The new front to the lawn is one of the most beautiful in the world‡; it is surprisingly light and elegant; the portico, supported by six pillars of the Corinthian order, is exceedingly elegant; the triangular cornice, inclosing the arms, is as light as possible; the balustrade gives a fine effect to the whole building, which is exceeded by few in lightness, unity of parts, and that pleasing simplicity which must strike every beholder.

"The hall is forty by forty, the ceiling supported by very handsome Corinthian pillars, and divided into compartments by cornices elegantly worked and gilt, the divisions painted in a very pleasing manner. On the left hand you enter an anti-chamber, twenty feet square, then a bed-chamber of the same size, and thirdly, a drawing-room of the like dimensions; the pier-glass is large, but the frame rather in a heavy stile. Over the chimney is some carving, by Gibbons.

* Dugd. Bar. v. i. p. 726, 301, 328.

† Ibid. p. 333.

‡ This front is from a design drawn by his lordship.

"The other side of the hall opens into a drawing-room, 40 by 25. The chimney-piece is exceedingly elegant; the cornice surrounds a plate of Siena marble, upon which is a beautiful festoon of flowers in white; it is supported by two pillars of Siena, wreathed with white, than which nothing can have a better effect. The door-cases are very elegantly carved and gilt. Here are three fine slabs, one of Egyptian granite, and two of Siena marble; also several pictures.

"The dining-room is 25 by 30. Here is the portrait of the great earl of Strafford, by Vandyke.

"Going up stairs (the stair-case by the bye is so lofty as to pain the eye) you enter the gallery, which is one of the most beautiful in England. It is one hundred and eighty feet long, by twenty-four broad, and thirty high. It is in three divisions; a large one in the centre, and a small one at each end; the division is by very magnificent pillars of marble, with gilt capitals. In the spaces between these pillars and the wall are some statues.

"This noble gallery is designed and used as a rendezvous room, and an admirable one it is; one end is furnished for music, and the other with a billiard-table: this is the stile in which such rooms should always be regulated. At each end is a very elegant Venetian window, contrived (like several others in the house) to admit the air by sliding down the pannel under the centre part of it. The cornices of the end divisions are of marble, richly ornamented. Here are several valuable pictures, amongst which is Charles I. in the Isle of Wight, by Vandyke.

"Lord Strafford's library is a good room, 30 by 20, and the book-cases handsomely disposed.

"Her ladyship's dressing room is extremely elegant, about twenty-five feet square, hung with blue Indian paper; the cornice, ceiling, and ornaments, all extremely pretty; the toilette boxes of gold, and very handsome.

"Her reading closet is excessively elegant, hung with a painted fatten, and the ceiling in Mosaics, festooned with honey-suckles; the cornice of glass painted with flowers; it is a sweet little room, and must please every spectator. On the other side of the dressing-room is a bird closet, in which are many cages of singing birds: the bed-chamber, twenty-five feet square, is very handsome, and the whole apartment very pleasingly complete.

"But Wentworth castle is more famous for the beauties of the ornamented environs, than for that of the house, though the front is superior to many. The water and woods adjoining are sketched with great taste. The first extends through the park in a meandering course, and wherever it is viewed, the terminations are no where seen, having every where the effect of a real and very beautiful river; the groves of oaks fill up the bends of the stream in a most beautiful manner, here advancing thick to the very banks of the water, there appearing at a distance, breaking away to a few scattered trees in some spots, and in others joining their branches into the most solemn brownness. The water in many places is seen from the house, between the trees of several scattered clumps, most picturesquely; in others, it is quite lost behind hills, and breaks every where upon the view, in a stile that cannot be too much admired.

"The shrubbery that adjoins the house is disposed with the utmost elegance: the waving slopes dotted with firs, pines, &c. are excessively pretty: and the temple is fixed at so beautiful a spot, as to command the sweet landscape of the park, and the rich prospect of the adjacent country, which rises in a bold manner, and presents an admirable view of cultivated hills.

"Winding

"Winding up the hill among the plantations and woods, which are laid out in an agreeable taste, we came to the bowling-green, which is thickly encompassed with evergreens, retired and beautiful, with a very light and pretty Chinese temple on one side of it, and from thence cross a dark walk, catching a most beautiful view of a bank of distant wood. The next object is a statue of Ceres, in a retired spot; the cascade appearing with a good effect, and through the divisions of it, the distant prospect is seen very finely. The lawn which leads up to the castle is elegant; there is a clump of firs on one side of it, through which the distant prospect is seen, and the abovementioned statue of Ceres is caught in the hollow of a dark grove with the most picturesque elegance, and is one among the few instances of statues being employed in gardens with real taste. From the platform of grass within the castle walls (in the centre of which is a statue of the late earl who built it) over the battlements, you behold a surprising prospect on whichever side you look; but the view which pleases me best, is that opposite the entrance, where you look down upon a valley, which is extensive, finely bounded by rising cultivated hills, and very complete in being commanded at a single look, notwithstanding its vast variety.

"Within the menagery, at the bottom of the park, is a most pleasing shrubbery, extremely sequestered, cool, shady, and agreeably contrasted to that by the house, from which so much distant prospect is beheld; the latter is what may be called fine, but the former is pleasingly agreeable. We proceeded through the menagery (which is pretty well stocked with pheasants, &c.) to the bottom of the shrubbery, where is an alcove in a sequestered situation; in front of it the body of a large oak is seen at the end of a walk, in a pleasing stile; but on approaching it, three more are caught in the same manner, which, from uniformity in such merely rural and natural objects, displeases at the first sight. The shrubbery, or rather plantation, is spread over two fine slopes, the valley between which is a long, winding, hollow dale, exquisitely beautiful, the banks are thickly covered with great numbers of very fine oaks, whose noble branches in some places almost join over the grass lawn, which winds through this elegant valley; at the upper end is a Gothic temple over a little grot, which forms an arch, and together have a pleasing effect; on a near view this temple is found a light, airy, and elegant building. Behind it is a water, sweetly situated, surrounded by hanging woods, in a beautiful manner; an island in it, prettily planted; and the bank on the left side rising elegantly from the water, and scattered with fine oaks. From the seat of the river god (the stream by the by is too small to be sanctified) the view into the park is pretty, congenial with the spot, and the temple caught in a proper stile."

Mr. Young concludes with properly acknowledging the true politeness of lord and lady Stafford, in permitting strangers to have easy access to a sight of this place; and execrates, as every one must do, the insolent pride of nabobs and contractors, who accidentally becoming possessed of fine seats, refuse that gratification to all who are not of their present acquaintance.

Lord Strafford has built some ruins near the road, which may perhaps have a good effect from the house, or grounds, but they appear very indifferently to a traveller.

Barnesley is a small town, black from the coal-mines and iron-works round it, from whence it has got the name of Black Barnesley. Yet, contradictory as it may seem, thread is bleached here; some coarse linen for shirts and checks, is wove.

In the village of Sandall is a small school by the road side, the modest builder of which has only placed the initials of his name, C. Z.; he says in the inscription, that it is designed to teach English and the Christian religion, the too great neglect of which he remarks, and, if I remember right, with an apostrophe!

At this place was a castle, built by John, the last earl Warren, who having no issue by his wife, in 9 Edward II. by special grant, gave the inheritance of all his lands to the king and his heirs, amongst which, this castle and the manor of Wakefield are enumerated; ten years after the king granted it to him for his life*. In 1 Edward III. on the death of Thomas, duke of Lancaster, Henry being found to be his brother and heir, the king, taking his homage, commanded his escheator north of Trent, not to meddle with the castle of Sandale, manor of Wakefield, &c. whereunto John earl of Warren laid claim, they being, by consent of both parties, to remain in the king's hands, to be delivered to Henry†. Yet, in the 20th year of that king, this earl Warren settled this castle on Maud de Nereford (his concubine) and on John and Thomas, his sons by her†. It, however, afterwards came to the crown, and was given by Edward III. to his fifth son, Edmund de Langley, from whom it descended to Richard, duke of York, the competitor of Henry VI. and who, between this place and Wakefield, fought the battle with Henry's queen, in which he lost his life. He had appointed his army to rendezvous here, but was followed suddenly by the queen before his forces were collected; too gallant to bear the thoughts of being braved by her at the gate of his own castle, he sallied out, was defeated, and killed. Mr. Thoresby had a ring which was found in this place, and supposed to have been his. On the right hand of the road, between this and Wakefield, on the spot where he fell, a stone cross was erected, which was destroyed in the late civil war§.

On the bridge over the Calder, at the entrance of Wakefield, stands a chapel, built by Edward the IVth; it belongs to the poor, was lately converted into a warehouse, and is now let to an cloath's-man. In the front are remains of some groups of figures, and other ornaments. Possibly it might have some reference to this battle, or to the murder of the young earl of Rutland, put to death in cold blood near the bridge, by lord Clifford, a young man whose barbarity stained the lustre of the victory, and gained him the name of The Butcher. He paid dear for it afterwards, as did the queen, for her weak and unworthy insults to the body of the gallant York. This lord was killed in the battle of Towton, and his sons, then quite infants, would have been sacrificed to the manes of Rutland, if their mother had not preserved them, by sending the youngest beyond sea, and concealing the eldest at the house of a shepherd, where he was brought up as a peasant, without education, and remained in that state till the settlement of Henry VII. on the throne, made it safe to discover him. His estates were in the mean time in the hands of his enemies, but he then got restitution of them||.

In 1756 a number of groupes, in wood and alabaster, were found in the roof of a house in the market-place, supposed to have belonged to the chapel on the bridge, or to Sandall castle. One of them represented St. William, archbishop of York; another the martyrdom of St. Amphibalus; Moses and Aaron, David and Solomon, Christ and the twelve Apostles, Paul, John Baptist, the three Magi, St. Anne teaching the virgin, a mitred figure, supposed the patron saint of the chapel, the martyrdom of St. John the Baptist in the cauldron, with Polycarp and Ignatius, the Roman magistrate and the executioners. They were about twelve inches high, painted red, and gilded. St Anne was three feet high, and in the best style, whence this might rather be conjectured to be the patron saint, or principal figure¶.

* Dugd. Bar. v. i. p. 81.

† Ibid. p. 783.

‡ Ibid. p. 82.

§ When Leland made his notes, Sandall castle belonged to the king. Itin. v. i. p. 35. A view of it, from a draught in the dutchy office, has been engraved by the Society of Antiquaries.

|| Dugd. Bar. v. i. p. 343.

¶ Gough's Topography, v. ii. p. 438.

This town is handsome and well built, and has long been noted for the clothing trade. There is a good bridge over the Calder, which was made navigable so far about 1698. Amongst other eminent men whom this place has produced, was the Pindar who distinguished himself as the antagonist of the bold Robinhood.

The road from hence to Leeds, is through a country black with coal-pits, and the smoak of the fire-engines and glass-houses; but the land is good. At Leeds the clothing trade, that staple manufacture of the kingdom, which employs such innumerable hands, and which is a more genuine source of wealth than the mines of Peru, is seen in all its glory. The cloth used to be exposed on stalls in the street, but in 1758 a large hall was built by subscription of 1589 clothiers, each of whom had a spot assigned him in it for sale of his cloth. The payment was three guineas each; and if the stall is sold, no larger premium is permitted to be taken. A new hall is now finished on a still larger scale, over the centre of which is an assembly room. It is almost incredible how much business is done here on the cloth-market days, which are Tuesdays and Saturdays. The neighbourhood is full of the country houses of the rich clothiers.

About three miles off are the ruins of Kirkstall-abbey, a stately Gothic building, in a vale watered by the river Aire. It was of the Cistercian order, founded by Henry de Lacy in 1157, and was valued at the dissolution at 329l. 2s. 11d. The gateway is walled up, and converted into a farm-house, the arch plainly appearing. The abbot's palace was on the south. The middle, north, and south ailes of the church remain, with nine pillars on each side, but the roof of the middle aile is gone. Places for six altars, three on each side the high altar, are visible. At the west end is a turret, with steps up to it, leading to the roof of the south aile, overgrown with grass. The tower, built about the time of Henry VIII. is pretty entire*; part of an arched chamber, leading to the cemetery, and part of the dormitory, remain. The wall under the east window is broken down, and there is no door at the west, so that there is a passage through the whole building, and this being always open, the cattle use it for a shelter, and make it very dirty. It is pity the noble owner (the duke of Montague) should not pay so much regard to this structure, and the purposes for which it was originally designed, as to prevent this abuse of it. One sees with veneration these mouldering remains of the piety of our ancestors; and, if it were only for the picturesque scenes which they exhibit in their present condition, one cannot but lament that they should want the little care which would preserve them very long from further destruction.

Near this place are said to be remains of some Danish works.

It is said that there was a Roman pottery two miles from Leeds, at Hawcaster-rigg, on Blackmore, and that there are some vestiges of a Roman town at Adell†.

Go to Harewood, where is Gawthorp-hall‡, the seat of Mr. Edwin Lascelles, formerly that of the Gascoignes, late of the Boulters§. At the village of that name, are some remains of the castle, once belonging to the Curci's, demolished in the late civil war.

Mr. King, who has taken very great pains in investigating the remains of ancient castles, says, that what remains of this appears to have been chiefly built about the time of Edward I. and to have been compleated in that of Edward III. The entrance is by two portals, in the first of which is the groove for the portcullis. In the apartment

* January 27, 1779, three sides of this tower fell down, and only the south side of it remains. // Gough's Topography, v. ii. p. 470.

† Phil. Transf. N°. 222, p. 319; and N°. 282, p. 1285.

‡ Now called Harewood-house.

§ Of whom John Boulter, esq. is spoken of by the authors of Magna Britannia, in 1731, as a person of great piety and benevolence.

over the second, is a large door way, which has three coats of arms over it; the first and third contain a lion rampant, being the arms of Aldburgh, charged on the breast with a fleur-de-lis, to distinguish the branch which possessed this castle from the elder; the second contains an orle, being the arms of Baliol. What is very extraordinary, this great arch only leads into the small room in the upper part of the tower of entrance, where there could not be any communication with the grand entrance below, and it seems unconnected with any other parts, except that little room, and the galleries in the wall. This little room is supposed to have been the chapel; in the freeze round it are 12 coats of arms cut in stone, amongst which those of Aldburgh are repeated three times; sir William de Aldburgh became possessed of this castle by gift of Robert de Insula, or De l'Isle, lord Lisle, of Rugemont, in 38 Edward III. on his marriage with a daughter of that lord. Sir William had one daughter and heir, who married sir Richard Redman, in the reign of Henry IV. From this repetition of the arms of Aldburgh, when only one of that name possessed the place, Mr. King thinks the date of this part of the building, at least, may be fixed to the time of that sir William, and he conjectures that the rest was built by Robert de Lisle, in the reign of Edward I. The Redmans continued owners to the time of Elizabeth.

On the ground floor of the castle, is the appearance of a tomb, a thing not easily to be accounted for in such a place. In the end walls are marks of a high-ridged roof having been let in, over the state apartments, but beneath the high parapet wall, so as to leave room for a platform on each side upon the leads above, secured by the parapet, which might be for the purpose of placing warlike engines*. The same has been observed at Castleton.

In the church is a monument for that upright and firm judge, sir William Gascoigne, who could not be prevailed on to pronounce what he thought an unjust sentence against Scrope, archbishop of Canterbury, when arrested for an insurrection against Henry IV. and who so nobly supported the dignity of the bench, by committing the prince of Wales (afterwards Henry V.) for a contempt in court. To the honor of the prince, he submitted to the law, and to the honor of his father, he commended the judge. He died in 1412. There is also a curious tomb for the Redmans, some time lords here. Mr. Lascelles built a range of neat houses in the village, intending to establish a ribband manufactory; unfortunately it did not succeed, but the attempt does him honor.

About half a mile from the village is the Hall, which he has lately rebuilt on a new spot of ground. It is a large, elegant house, standing on an eminence, and from the south front overlooks a piece of water in the bottom. The gallery extends the whole west end of the house, and is seventy-seven feet and an half long, by twenty-four feet and an half wide, and twenty-two high. The politeness of the family, in most obligingly permitting us, as travellers, to see the house on a day on which it is not usually shewn, must not be passed without mention; it gave additional pleasure to that arising from the sight of a place finished with so much taste.

At Knareborough are some remains of the castle, standing on a high abrupt bank, overlooking the river Nid, which runs at the foot of it. It was built soon after the Conquest by Serlo de Burgh, uncle by the father's side to Eustace Vesey; it came afterwards to be the feat of the Estotevilles, a daughter of which family married Hugh de Moreville, one of the four knights who slew Thomas Becket; and he, in her right, held this castle, and fled to it with his assistants in that act: they remained here shut

* Arch. v. vi. p. 329.

for a year, but submitting to the church, were pardoned on condition of performing a pilgrimage to the Holy Sepulchre.

After this it came to the crown, and was given by Henry III. to Hubert de Burgh, his faithful adherent, but the adviser of his arbitrary measures. It again escheated to the king, and was granted by Henry III. to his brother Richard, earl of Cornwall, whose son Edmund dying without issue, it was given by Edward II. to his favourite Pièrs de Gavestone. On his death it came once more into the royal possession, and in 14 Edward III. was granted to John of Gaunt, duke of Lancaster, and has belonged to that dutchy ever since.

In 1399 Richard II. after his deposition, was removed hither from Pickering castle, and from hence carried to Pontefract castle, where he ended his days.

The townsmen defended it for Charles I. after the battle of Marston-moor, in the most spirited manner, and at last being compelled to surrender, had leave to go where they pleased. Lilburn, who commanded for the parliament, destroyed all the buildings within the castle walls, and the materials and furniture were sold*. The south front of the keep is partly standing, and is about 48 feet high, between two round towers, which are placed one at each corner. These towers are solid stone work, except that one of them has a small window and a loop, with very narrow passages leading to them; the lower part of that in which is the loop, is a vaulted room, now used as a prison, which has no communication with the inside of the keep. The ground floor seems to have been used as store-rooms. Adjoining to one of the towers is a small door, opening into an apartment which has no communication whatever with the inside of the keep; in this room the records of the forest have long been kept. By the side of this little door were the steps leading to the door of the apartment on the second floor; this door is ornamented with tracery work, so as to have some appearance of a window. Under these steps is a door to the vaults below. The great room on the second floor, appears to have had an arched roof of stone work†.

At the bottom of the town, across the bridge, is the famous dropping well, falling from a rock of limestone of coarse grain‡ (which is nearly insulated from the neighbouring bank, from which it slipped down about the beginning of this century) in a perpetual stream of many strings of water, of a petrifying quality. The river runs below, and for some miles goes through a deep valley, wooded on the sides, sometimes to the water's edge. There are three other wells here; the sweet spa, or vitrioline well; the stinking, or sulphur well (which tinges silver with a copper colour, owing to its having the addition of a vitriolic salt§); and St Mongah, or Kentegera's well. This St. Mongah was a Scottish saint.

A mile from Knaresborough, near Grimble-bridge, is a place called St. Robert's Cave, in the time of king John the habitation of a hermit of that name, son of one who had been twice mayor of York, but he disliking the world, left his patrimony, and after having been a short time a monk at Morpeth, retired to this place||. This gave rise to a religious foundation by Richard earl of Cornwall, of the order of the Holy Trinity for redemption of captives. It was surrendered by the prior 1539. The cave is dug in the rock above the river Nid, and has been lately made remarkable by the discovery of a murder, committed there about fifteen years before by one Eugene Aram, a man, who, without education, had acquired a considerable share of learning

* Camd. vol. ii. p. 94. Grose.

† Mr. King has given a very exact description of this castle in Arch. v. vi. p. 322.

‡ Short, p. 106.

§ Leigh, b. i. p. 34.

|| Leland, Itin. v. i. p. 82.

by intense application ; his defence is perhaps as masterly a performance as has been often seen on such an occasion, and would have done honour to a better cause.

About two miles from Knareborough is Plumpton, an old seat of an old family of that name, which flourished from the Conquest till the middle of the present century, when this place, with an estate of seven hundred pounds a year, was bought by Mr. Daniel Lafcelles. He designed to have built a house, which he began, made his kitchen garden, and formed a pleasure ground in a romantic spot, but then desisted, and went to live at Goldsworth, another purchase of his, two miles off. The company at Harrogate, which is at a small distance, have the advantage of what has been done, a visit to these gardens being one of their excursions.

Mr. Lafcelles found in a bottom near the house, a small piece of water, with a number of rocks standing up in detached pieces of various forms ; he enlarged the water considerably, forming various bays between the rocks, and covering the tops of them with greenward, shrubs, and flowers, often leaving the sides quite bare. The walks are carried sometimes between, sometimes by the side, sometimes on the top of these rocks, which present themselves in a variety of shapes. The autumnal crocus grows wild in the pastures here in great plenty.

Not far from hence is Copgrave, where is a memorable epitaph, similar to that of Mr. Heyrick, mentioned at Leicester. It is for John Wincupp, who was rector thereof 54 years ; pious, charitable, and peaceable ; never sued any, nor was sued ; lived 52 years with his wife, had six children, and a numerous family (boarding and teaching many of the gentry) out of which not one died in all that time ; himself was the first, July 8, 1637, in his 86th year*.

The forest of Knareborough is now inclosed ; the land, lately of little use, is now converted into arable and good pasture. The family of the Slingsbys, still flourishing here, were made rangers of this forest in the time of Edward I. Their seat is at Screven-hall, a handsome house, with very pleasant walks, and fine views.

Go from hence to the little town of Ripley, and lodge there. Here is a seat of sir John Ingleby, whose family has resided in this place for ages. It is famous for the birth of sir George Ripley, the celebrated chymist, who lived in the 15th century, and is said to have discovered the philosopher's stone. Near this place were found, in 1734, two pigs of lead, inscribed, *Imp. Gaes. Domitiano Avg. cos. VII.*, one of which is now in the hands of sir John Ingleby†.

The next day pass by a new house, building by Mr. Messenger, late owner of Fountain's abbey, and so to Ripon.

At Ripon was a monastery, built by Wilfrid, archbishop of York, a prelate, who presuming on his great wealth and power, behaved with such insolence to Egfrid, King of Northumberland, that he deprived him of his see ; and despising the authority of the Pope, to whom Wilfrid had appealed, put him into prison, for daring to appeal to a foreign power against him. On the death of Egfrid, he made his peace with Alfred, who succeeded to the crown, and obtained a restitution of his see of York ; but the same insolence produced a second banishment : he now found favour with Ethelred, King of the Mercians, who made him bishop of Leicester ; but his behaviour here was such, that he was not long after degraded. Such, however, was the merit of his appeal to Rome, that it made a saint of him‡.

* Camd. v. ii. p. 95.

† Phil. Trans. N°. 459, p. 560 ; and Gough's Top. v. ii. p. 464.

‡ Leland, Itin. v. i. p. 76.

Before Wilfrid's foundation, there had been a monastery of Scots here, of whom Eata, abbot of Melros, was chief. It stood in a bottom, a small distance from the minster. An abbot of Fountaynes got a grant of the chapel, part of which he pulled down, and rebuilt it, intending to have made it a cell to his abbey; when Leland visited this place, a chauntry priest was maintained there, and he observes, that there were three crosses standing in a row at the east end of the chapel garth, of very ancient workmanship, and monuments of some notable men buried there*. He observes, that woollen cloth used to be made in the town, but idleness was then sore encreased, and cloth-making almost decayed. Wilfrid's building was entirely demolished by the Danes, but was re-edified by Odo, archbishop of Canterbury†. This place was in such favour with Athelstan, that he granted a charter, by which, amongst other privileges, all St. Wilfrid's men were to be believed in all courts by their Yae and Nae‡. At the dissolution, the whole of the revenues were seized into the hands of the crown. In 1604 a petition was presented to Anne, Queen of James I. for settling a college here, in the manner of an university, for the benefit of the borders of England and Scotland§. She approved the plan, but it was not carried into execution; however, James refounded the church, making it consist of a dean, subdean, and six prebendaries, allowing them 247l. *per ann.* out of the former prebendal lands.

There is now a collegiate church with three steeples, or towers, large, but very plain. The spires have been long since blown down. This church suffered much in the civil war in 1643, but has been well repaired since. Under the church is a narrow, winding passage, called St. Wilfrid's Needle, heretofore supposed to have been a trial of female chastity, such as had made a slip, not being able to go through.

The manor was granted by Queen Mary to the see of York, to which it now belongs. Here is a free grammar-school, founded by Queen Mary in the third year of her reign, and well endowed. There is also a blue-coat hospital, founded about 1672 by Zacharias Jepson, an apothecary of York, for the maintenance and education of twenty orphan boys, or the sons of poor freemen of the town, who are taken care of from the age of seven to fifteen; and any two of them who may be deemed fit for the university, are to have an exhibition of 10l. a year each, for seven years, at Cambridge. Such as are apprenticed at Ripon, have 5l. given with them. The estates are vested in ten trustees.

The market-place is very large, having in the centre an obelisk of free stone, 82 feet high, on the top of which is a bugle horn, the arms of the town. Having suffered much by the weather, it was rebuilt by Mr. Aislabie, in 1731. It was formerly the custom for the *Vigillarius*, or *Wakeman* (who seems to have been the chief magistrate till James I. granted a charter to the town, making it a corporation, consisting of mayor, recorder, 12 aldermen, and 24 assistants) to order that a horn should be blown every night at nine o'clock, and if any house or shop was broken open or robbed, between that time and sun-rising, the loss was to be made good by the town, for which purpose each householder paid four-pence a-year, or, if he had a back door to another street, eight-pence||. The horn is still blown, though the tax, and the benefit arising from it, are discontinued.

At this town, in 1695, were found many Saxon coins, namely, of their brass sticca's, whereof there were eight to a penny. They were of the latter race of the

* Leland, Itin. v. i. p. 77.

† Camd. v. ii. p. 94, 95.

‡ Dugd. Mon. vol. i. p. 173.

§ The plan is inserted in Peck's Desid. Cur. v. ii. lib. 7. p. 56.

|| Gent's History of Ripon.

kings of Deira, or rather the Subreguli, after Egbert had reduced it to be part of his monarchy*.

Two miles from Ripon is a sulphur well, called Oldfield Spaw. It lies between two hills, near an old abbey, in a very romantic situation, resembling Matlock; it was discovered about the end of the last century. The spring is always of the same height, not affected by rain or drought, but boils up with great noise against a change of weather†.

About four miles east of Ripon, towards Boroughbridge, is Newby, the seat of Mr. Weddell, on the banks of the Eure. The situation is low, but the grounds are laid out to the best advantage; and whatever is wanting without, is amply made up within the house, which is disposed and furnished in Adams's best manner. There are a few good pictures of the first masters, and such a collection of statues, busts, bas-reliefs, urns, sarcophagus's, and antique marbles, as few houses in England can shew; amongst the statues, the Venus holds the first place.

A little way from this town is Studley Park, the seat of the late Mr. Aislaby. The gardens were begun about 60 years ago by his father (who married the heiress of the Mallorie's an ancient family) and have long been celebrated as the finest in the north of England. They are at a small distance from the house, in a valley, in which are several pieces of water, too much in the old, formal stile, supplied by a little stream, which comes from Fountain's abbey; the hills on each side are covered with woods, in which are interspersed several temples and buildings, so placed as to form excellent points of view from the different walks which are carried along the sides and tops of the declivities. The late owner was at last enabled to make the place complete by the addition of this abbey, which it was many years before he could obtain. It stands at the upper end of a vale, which commences at the termination of the old gardens, and is finely wooded on each side; through this runs the stream, which at the turn of the hill is formed into a beautiful piece of water. Before this purchase was made, only an imperfect view of the abbey was caught from one of the seats, much interrupted by the trees, which stood immediately before it; these are now cleared away, so as to give a full sight of the magnificent ruins.

This celebrated abbey was founded in 1132, by Thurstan, archbishop of York, for monks of the Cistercian order, and was built with stone taken from the rocks in the adjoining hill. Some yew trees remain in the wood, said to have been planted by the first monks. By degrees they obtained very large possessions, and had an amazing quantity of plate, cattle, &c. Just before the dissolution, their plate at 4s. 4d. per oz. was valued at above 700l. they had 2356 oxen, cows and calves; 1326 sheep; 86 horses, and 79 swine. Their revenues amounted, according to Burton, to more than 1100l. a year, at the dissolution. William Thurst, or Thirske, the last abbot but one, was afterwards hanged at Tyburn, together with the abbot of Jervaux, or Joreval, and four others, who had been concerned in the insurrection under Aske, in Yorkshire, called the Pilgrimage of Grace, one object of which was a restoration of the abbies‡.

This abbey, with others, was granted to sir Richard Gresham, who sold it to sir Stephen Proctor, whose daughter and heiress carried it into the family of Messenger, of one of whose descendants it was lately bought by Mr. Aislaby. The ruins are very considerable; the walls of the church, a large and lofty tower, part of the cloisters

* Camd. v. ii. p. 94, 95.

† Short, p. 297.

‡ Willis's Mitred Abbies, v. ii. p. 271.

entire, and of the dormitory over them, and of the kitchen and refectory, &c. still remain. The stream runs under one end of the cloisters, and is there arched over.

The church and town of Ripon make a fine termination of a view from the park.

About five miles from Studley, Mr. Aislaby made some walks, and erected some buildings in a sequestered and most romantic place, called Hackfall.

A little rivulet, which rises on Greville-thorpe-moor, runs into a deep, woody glen, and forms at the entrance three or four small pools, and in issuing out of them, makes so many little cascades, judiciously varied in their forms. It then hastens with precipitance to the river Eure, at the bottom of the dale, rushing over heaps of stones and pebbles which obstruct its passage, and make a multitude of falls, continually differing in shape and size. On the right rises a very steep hill, covered with underwood to the top, through which is a waterfall of considerable height; on the left, the walk is formed under a shade of lofty trees, growing on a steep bank. At the bottom of this walk is a small, plain building, called Fisher's Hall (from the name of the gardener) from whence is a view of the river Eure*, whose noise had been before heard, roaring over great heaps of stones, torn from the adjoining rocks in its fury, when swelled with rains. It runs here in a bend, round a point of high land on the opposite side, clothed with a hanging wood from the brink to the water's edge, but is soon lost between the woody hills.

Returning back a little way, a path to the right leads through a fine wood of lofty trees, which reach from the top of the high, abrupt hill, then being on the left, to the river side. In some parts the wood has been cleared, to vary the ground with spots of greenward, leaving a few scattered trees. In one of these spots a rustic building is placed, looking on a considerable water-fall, the top of which is hid by the over-hanging boughs; this runs into a basin, in which a high fountain plays out of a rock placed in the middle. Keeping near the side of the river, it shews itself in various views; the opposite bank generally covered with wood, but in one place presenting a lofty perpendicular face of bare rock. The same sort of rocks appear in the hill on the left, the trees being thinned to shew them. Near the end of this walk, a slender rill drops from an impending bank, through the stem of a tree, into the river.

Turning now to the left, ascend the hill which overhangs the path you have followed, and from various stations have various views of the river and country. The spire of Masham church is a beautiful object from several places. The views of the country become more extensive as the ground rises, till coming to a building on the brink of a precipice, and on the highest part of the hill, a noble scenery opens. In the bottom several reaches of the river are seen at once; the hanging wood on its farther bank, a particular green meadow on its summit, farm-houses, gentlemen's seats, cultivated land, the church of Tanfield, with its bridge over the water, the churches of Topcliffe and Thirsk, York Minster, the whole bounded by Black Hambleton, and other hills in the horizon, on one of which the White Mare of Weston Cliff†, or White Stone Cliff, is visible in a clear day, compose this beautiful landscape. The building which affords this prospect, appears from different parts of the walk to be a ruin, but has two neat rooms in it, where, or in

* This river runs to Hull, but loses its name a little below Boroughbridge, at Ousebourn, where the little brook called Ouse, runs into it, and gives name to its further course. It receives in its track the Swale, the Nid, the Darwent, &c.

† A mark in a hill, like the White Horse in Berkshire, Whiteleaf-cross, in Bucks, &c.

Fisher's Hall, Mr. Aislaby sometimes dined, or indulged his friends with the liberty of so doing, and for this purpose kitchens are built near.

Proceeding onward, a new view opens of the principal waterfall mentioned in the first walk, but it here appears to come from a much greater height, than it did when seen before, the upper part not being visible there. From hence you come to the place at which you first entered.

From Hackfall it is three miles to a little town, called Maslham, the market-place of which is uncommonly spacious, built on three sides, but the houses so low and mean, that it has the appearance of a deserted place. The church is at the end of the south side, remarkably neat. In it is a very handsome monument for sir Marmaduke Wyvill, who died in 1617, and his lady; he was descended from a co-heiress of the lords Scroope, of Maslham, one of whom was beheaded for a conspiracy against Henry V. There is another good monument for Mr. Danby, to whose family the manor belongs, and whose seat is at Swinton, in the road to Maslham. The great tythes are the property of Trinity college, Cambridge.

The manor of the rectory of this place was the endowment of a prebend in the cathedral of York, and perhaps the richest in the kingdom. In 1534 it was valued at 136*l.* a year. In 1546 it was resigned by Robert Peterson, then prebendary, who conveyed it to Chancellor Wriottesly, and his heirs, and it has been ever since a lay fee*.

Mr. Danby's improvement of the moors, which lie behind his house in immense tracts, is so observable, and so worthy of imitation, that too much cannot be said of it. He has a colliery, which employs many hands, and the cottages of the workmen are scattered about on the moors. Some years ago he gave leave to the cottagers to inclose a field contiguous to their gardens, that they might, if industrious, raise their own corn. A few examples had great effects, and now there is not a collier without a little farm, from four to twenty acres, on which he keeps a cow or two, and raises corn. The hours of work in the colliery are few, and leave sufficient time for the cultivation of this land. This scheme has introduced a spirit of industry, in lieu of the idleness which used to prevail after the work in the coal-pits was finished for the day, and fixes the men, who before this, on the least disgust, used to run from one colliery to another†.

Mr. Arthur Young mentions a most extraordinary instance of industry in one of these colliers, named James Crofts, who has reclaimed nine acres of moor, much incumbered with stone, the whole of which, in the inclosure and cultivation, has been performed by his own hands, with the help of one Galloway; for years he spent 20 hours of the 24 in unremitted labour. Mr. Young was so struck with the spirit of this poor man, (who seems to have been unaccountably neglected by Mr. Danby, notwithstanding his own turn for improvements) that he most humanely proposed a subscription to raise a sum for enabling him to proceed in the improvement of a larger tract. What a loss to the public, that such a genius for agriculture should be cramped, and for want of a sum, less than is often spent in the capital on a single dinner!

By the side of the road, three miles before coming to Middleham, are some remains of Joreval abbey. It was originally begun in 1144 by Peter de Quinciano, a monk of Savigny, of the Cistercian order, in a different place, and was then called the abbey of Fors, Wensley-dale, and Charity, and sometimes Joreval; but 11 years

* Willis's Cath. vol. i. p. 152.

† Young's North Tour, v. ii. p. 289.

afterwards was removed hither, when it got the name of Joreval, *i. e.* Eureval, from the river Eure running near it. Adam Sodbury, the last abbot, was one of those who were attainted in 1539*, probably for having been concerned in the Pilgrimage of Grace, which was stirred up by the clergy, as mentioned before. At the dissolution it was valued at 455l. 10s. 5d. according to Speed, and 234l. 18s. 5d. by Dugdale, and was granted to Matthew, earl of Lenox, and lady Margaret, his wife. It now belongs to the earl of Aylesbury, who has a large estate hereabouts. Stone coffins have been dug up in the burial grounds, and converted by the farmers into hog-troughs; in the coffins have been found cloth and ribbands, retaining their natural colours. The walls have been pulled down to make farm-houses and fences, and to repair the roads.

At the foot of the right hand hill stands Danby, the seat of Mr. Scroope.

Pass a handsome bridge over the Cover, which runs out of Coverdale, and joins the Eure a little below. In this dale are some remnants of Coverham-abbey, or Priory, founded about the 14th John by Ralph, son of Robert, lord of Middleham. He removed hither some canons of the Præmonstratensian order, from a house at Swaneby, founded by Helwisia, his mother, daughter and heiress of Ranulph de Glanville, the famous chief justice, and he and several of his descendants were buried here†. It was one of the lesser abbies surrendered 27 Henry VIII. having then in lands, &c. 207l. 14s. 8d. a year, but reduced by pensions and expences to a clear income of 160l. 18s. 3d. In 4 Philip and Mary, it was sold by commissioners of the crown to Humphry Orme. It stands on the north side of the rapid brook of Cover, in the dale called from it Coverdale, and in a dismal situation; notwithstanding which, an owner of the name of Wray, erected from the ruins a dwelling-house adjoining to the spot. A few years ago two statues, larger than the life, were dug up here, in the habit of knights templars, in a cumbent posture, ornamented with foliage and animals, but of most rude workmanship‡.

From the bridge, having the Eure on the right, see the lofty fragments of Middleham-castle, overlooking the town. Large pieces of the walls have fallen down, and the mortar seems less durable than it is generally found in those ancient buildings. Alan the II^d. earl of Brittany and Richmond, gave this and other manors to Ribald, his younger brother, who possessed it at the time of the Conqueror's survey. Robert, his grandson, erected this castle about the year 1190. On his death, in the 54th of Henry III. it descended, with the forest of Coverdale, to Mary, one of his daughters, who had married Robert de Nevill§, in whose family it continued till seized by Edw. IV. who had been imprisoned here under the care of the archbishop of York, brother to the great earl of Warwick, but made his escape either by the carelessness or design of his keeper||; if it was the latter, the king made him a very ill return, when a few years afterwards, under pretence of visiting him at his seat at the More, or Mote, in Hertfordshire, he seized all the plate which the archbishop had got there of his own, and had borrowed of others, in order to entertain him the more magnificently. Still worse, he kept him in prison at Calais four years, in which time he was so ill-used, that he died soon after being released. The outer part was built or rebuilt by one of the Nevills¶.

The only son of Richard III. died young at this castle, and from that time it is not mentioned in history. The late earl of Holderness was constable of it, as his family

* Carte, v. iii. p. 149.

§ Dugd. Bar. v. i. p. 52, 53.

† Dugd. Bar. v. i. p. 53, 292.

|| Ibid. p. 306.

‡ Grose.

¶ Leland's Itin. v. i. p. 76.

had long been; but in the beginning of the last century, it was inhabited by sir Henry Lindley*.

From hence is a fine view of the dale, with the winding river, the villages and woods, and over them it extends to a great distance towards the east. The entrance was on the north side, next the town; some part of a moat appears on the south and east sides. At a little distance on the south side are two artificial mounts, midway between which and the castle, is a remarkably distinct and loud echo†.

The town of Middleham stands on high ground, overlooking the beautiful valley called Wensley-dale, from a village in it of that name, the church of which lord Scroope had a licence to make collegiate in the 1 Henry IV. but it does not appear that he carried his design into execution. The dale is of considerable width, lying between two hills, adorned with several villages, and is watered by the river Eure, which runs through it with many windings. From Middleham the passage over the river is by a ford; but after rains you must return as far as Coverbridge, or go up as high as Wensley; but to see the most of the vale, the way is to go by Coverbridge, and through the villages of Spenythorne, Armby, Leyburn, and Wensley. The meandering of the river through the most verdant pastures, whose hedges are filled with trees, the scattered villages, the hanging woods, the contrast of the bare hill-tops, form all together a most captivating scene. From a ridge of rock above Leyburn, the whole is viewed to great advantage. At Armby is a fall of water, which after rain, is considerable.

In Wensley church is a curiously carved pew, brought from the monastery of St. Agatha, near Richmond, which formerly belonged to the lords Scroope of Bolton. On this is still legible the name of Henry lord Scroope, carved on the wood, in text hand, with other inscriptions, now much broken‡.

In the middle of the dale stands Bolton-hall, and at some distance, under a fine grove, Bolton-castle. The present house was built by Charles, marquis of Winchester, created duke of Bolton by William III. He was a man of the most extraordinary disposition; sometimes he would not speak for weeks together, at others he would not open his mouth till such an hour of the day, when he thought the air was pure§. We have lately heard of a hunting by torch-light in France, to amuse the king of Denmark when there, but it was not a novelty, having been practised by this gentleman. But with all these oddities he was a man of deep policy, and played his cards with great art in the difficult times of Charles II., James, and William.

A pillar on the hill, which fronts the house, commemorates the gratitude of a former owner, who buried under it a race-horse, by whose speed he recovered the estate, which his destructive passion for gaming had once lost. It may serve as a useful memento.

By marriage of a natural daughter of Emanuel, Lord Scroope, (created by Charles I., earl of Sunderland, who had no legitimate issue) this estate came to an ancestor of the present owner. In the house are a few portraits of that family; amongst them is one of Henry, lord Scroope, one of those noblemen who signed the famous letter to the pope, threatening that if he did not permit the divorce between Henry VIII., and queen Catherine, they would reject his supremacy. The estate round this mansion is very

* Grose.

† Ibid.

‡ Ibid.

§ Burnet's History of his own Times, sub anno 1699.

considerable, with many lead mines in it, from which the duke receives one fifth of the smelted lead, and has no farther trouble than to carry it to market.

Bolton castle was built by Richard, lord Scroope, the honest and spirited chancellor of Richard II., but whose ancestors had an estate here at least as early as 24 Edward I. Leland says, it was 18 years in building, and the cost 1000 marks a year, which makes 12,000*l*. He says that the timber used about it was mostly fetched from the forest of Engleby, in Cumberland, by relays of ox teams placed on the road. He mentions chimneys made in the side of the walls for conveyance of the smoak, as a thing he had not been accustomed to see*. He also mentions an astronomical clock being here.

The castle is of a quadrilateral figure, the greatest length being from north to south, but no two of its sides equal; the south is 184 feet, the opposite 187, the west 131, and the east 125. It has four right lined towers, one at each angle, but neither their faces nor flanks are equal; each of the former measuring on the north and south sides 47 feet and an half, and on the east and west only 35 feet and an half; the latter vary from seven feet and an half to six feet. In the centre between the two towers, both on the north and south sides, is a large projecting right-angled buttress or turret; that on the north side is 15 feet in front, its west side 14, its east 16; on the south side the front is 12 feet, its east nine, its west 12.

The grand entrance was in the east curtain, near the southernmost tower; there were three other doors, one on the north, two on the west side. The walls are seven feet thick, 97 high. It was lighted by several stages of windows. The chief lodging rooms were in the towers. The east and north sides are mostly in ruins, the west part is in good repair. One of the towers, which was the principal object of attack in the civil wars, fell down in the night in November 1761†.

Mary, Queen of Scots, was confined here under the care of lord Scroope in 1568, but was soon removed to Tutbury castle, in Staffordshire. Her chamber is shewn.

In the civil wars this castle was gallantly defended for the king by col. Scroope, but at length surrendered on honorable terms.

In this parish lived that singular instance of longevity, Henry Jenkins, who died December 8, 1670, aged 169 years. After he was more than 100 years old, he used to swim in the rivers, and was called upon as an evidence to a fact of 140 years past. He was once a butler to lord Conyers, after that a fisherman, and at last a beggar.

In the road from hence to Askrigg and Richmond, are the falls of the river Eure, called Atte-scarre (from the rocks between which the river runs) corruptly Aysgarth Force, or the Force, which are less known than they deserve to be, and which, indeed, exceed any expectation that can well be formed of them, and any description which I can give.

Cross the river at Bolton-hall, and the right hand road leads to a small public-house near Aysgarth church; here the horses may be left. Go down a sharp descent to the bridge, turn on the right, and soon quitting the high road, go on the right again, through a little wood, and over three or four fields, by a blind path, to the bank from whence the principal fall is seen.

* Mr. King, in describing the very ancient castle of Conisborough, in Yorkshire, which he attributes to the Saxons, mentions a chimney formed in the wall, which must have been co-eval with the building.

† These measurements are taken from Mr. Grose's very elegant work, to which I am indebted for much information.

The romantic situation of the handsome church of Aysgarth, on an eminence, solitarily overlooking these cataracts, (says the ingenious Mr. Maude, chief agent to the duke of Bolton here,) the decency of the structure within and without, its perfect retirement, the rural church-yard, the dying sounds of water amidst woods and rocks, wildy intermixed with the variety and magnitude of the surrounding hills, concur to render this scene at once awful and picturesque, in a very high degree.

The falls that are above the bridge, are seen on descending to it, but are seen to greater advantage on the return. You there view them through a spacious light arch, which presents the river at every step in variety of forms. On the left is the steeple, emerging from a copse.

From the bridge the water falls near half a mile, upon a surface of stone, in some places quite smooth, in others worn into great cavities, and inclosed by bold and shrubbed cliffs; in others it is interrupted by huge masses of rock standing upright in the middle of the current. It is every where changing its face, and exhibits some grand specimens before it comes to the chief descent, called The Force.

The whole river, which is of considerable breadth, here pours down a ledge of irregular broken rock, and falling to a great depth, boils up in sheets of white foam, and is some time before it can recover itself sufficiently to pursue its course, which it does at last with great rapidity. No words can do justice to the grandeur of this scene, which was said by Dr. Pococke to exceed that of the Cataracts of the Nile, nor is it much less difficult for the pencil to describe it; I do not think that the very accurate and judicious Mr. Pennant (excellent as his plates in general are) shews half its magnificence.

The bridge has on it the date of 1539, which is probably a stone of the old bridge, the present one seeming of much later date.

Returning back to the bridge you have a full view of the falls above it, as mentioned before, and here your horses may meet you, for if you go to the public-house you must return and cross the river again to go to Askrigg.

This place is in a bottom, and for a mile or two before coming to the descent of the hill, the road runs along the edge of a steep declivity on the left, guarded by a stone wall. On the side of this bank is an old house of Mr. Weddell, called Nappa-hall, which he has quitted for Newby, near Ripon. This was formerly the seat of the Medcalfs, so numerous a family, that Camden says sir Christopher Medcalf, the chief of them, went with 300 horse, all of his family and name, and in the same habit, to receive the justices of assize, and conduct them to York.

When here, I ought to have gone to Richmond, a few miles off, a town delightfully situated on the Swale, where is a castle built by Alan, earl of Bretagne, nephew of William the Conqueror. The late earl of Holderness had a seat here, which he sold to Laurence Dundas, who, by that and a subsequent purchase, obtained the representation of the borough.

Askrigg is a small town, with decent accommodation at the George. The inhabitants are employed in knitting stockings, of which they make great quantities.

In this neighbourhood are some remarkable water-falls, two of which called Mill Gill, and Whitfield Gill, are within an easy walk from the town. Another called Hardrow-force or fofs, is five miles off.

The course of a small stream leads up a meadow to Mill Gill, where the water has forced a passage of two or three yards in width, through the rocks, and falls down perpendicularly about 16 yards: seen from below, it has a considerable effect, the rock appearing to have been perforated merely to give it way.

Higher

Higher up the same stream, is Whitfield Gill, where the stream coming to the edge of a rock, has a fall of 22 yards; but this can only be seen from the high ground, the bottom being scarcely, if at all, accessible.

From the hill above this place, the river Bain is seen running from Semerewater, by a little village, called Bainbridge, into the Eure. This piece of water is about a mile square, and lies about three or four miles from Askrigg. At the junction of these two streams, there was a Roman garrison; and upon the hill (which they call Burgh) are the ground-works of an old fortification, about five acres in compass; and under it, to the east, the tracks of many houses were visible in Camden's time. He found there a fragment of a Roman inscription, in a very fair character, with a winged victory supporting it; from which he conjectures, that the fort was formerly called Bracchium, which had been made of turf, but was then built of stone and mortar; and that the 6th cohort of the Nervii was garrisoned here. They also seem to have had a summer camp on that high hill, hard by, which is called Ethelbury. A statue of Aurelius Commodus, the emperor, was dug up here (in Camden's time) in the habit of Hercules, his right hand armed with a club*. At Giggleswick, a mile from Settle, is a well, which ebbs and flows much oftener than that at Tidswell. In this neighbourhood, are several remarkable caves, of which we had such imperfect information, or rather hints only, that we did not visit them. A full account of them, has been lately given in a pamphlet, called "A Tour to the Caves," to which I must refer for a particular description; but shall just mention the names of some. The route seems to be from Askrigg to Ingleton, between which places, is Hurtlepot, a round deep hole, 30 or 40 yards diameter, and as much in depth, to the surface of a deep black water; Ginglepot; and Weathercoat cave, in which is a subterranean cataract. Three miles before coming to Ingleton, a few yards out of the road, on the right, the river Weate or Greta, gushes out of several fountains, all within twenty or thirty yards of each other, having run about two miles under ground, though making its appearance in two or three places within that distance. Near Ingleton, is Yordas-cove, in the vale of Kingdale.

Ingleborough is a very lofty hill, the name of which is derived from the Saxon, and signifies a rocky hill fire station; on the top, was a beacon, erected by the Roman garrison at Overborough, five miles distant, and was extremely well adapted to that purpose, being itself seen at great distances, and commanding a view of many other hill-tops. It is a mile in height, 3987 yards above the level of the sea, the base near 20 miles in circumference. The ascent is at the beginning even and gradual, but becomes, by degrees, more rugged and perpendicular, and is at last so steep, that it is with difficulty you get up, and it is only in some places that you can do it at all. The top is level, almost a mile in circumference, having the ruins of a wall round it, and of the beacon. On this spot races have been run; but the rock is so scantily covered with earth, that little grass grows on it. From hence there is a most unbounded prospect†. Near the top, on the east side, is a stratum of stone, like the Derbyshire marble, full of entrochi; white sea shells are found in the black and brown marble, which is dug here‡. A number of springs rise on the sides of this hill, some near the summit, which fall into holes or chasms when they come to the limestone, and passing under ground some way, burst out again towards the base. Some of these caverns may be descended, and the passage pursued to a great distance; some of them are dry, others having a continual run of water, such as Blackside Cove, fir William's Cove,

* Camd. v. ii. p. 118.

† Gent. Mag. 1761. p. 127, 148.

‡ Tour to the Caves
Atkin-

Atkinson's Chamber, &c. Johnson's Jacket-hole resembles a funnel in shape, and is very deep; a stone thrown into it makes a rumbling noise, and may be heard a considerable time. There is another called Gaper-Gill, into which a stream falls, and after a subterraneous passage of upwards of a mile, breaks out again near Clapham, and at last joins the Lon or Lune, which runs by Lancaster*. Towards the foot of the hill is Double Cave, something like that of Weathercoat. In a pasture, called the Sleights, near the turnpike road, are two large heaps of small round stones, a quarter of a mile from each other, called by the country people, the Hurdors; the stones in the neighbourhood are limestone, but these are sandy, gritty stones†; they are thrown promiscuously together, without appearance of workmanship, and yet cannot be supposed the work of nature. One of these heaps is computed to contain 400 of this country cart loads; and there are other heaps of the same sort up and down the country‡. Near Chapel in Dale, are Catknot-hole, and Greenside-cave; the latter at the bottom of a hill, called Whemside, near the road from Wintercales to the dale of Dent. A little way from the village of Selfside, and two miles from Gearstones, is a deep hole, called Alumn-pot. The high hill of Penegent is not far from the little town of Horton, above which is a grotesque amphitheatre of rock, called Dowgill-scar. A mile or two off, on the base of Penegent, are Hulpit, and Hunt-pit-holes, each having a stream (or beck) running through it; and what is most extraordinary, these brooks cross each other under ground, without mixing waters, the bed of one being on a stratum above the other; this was discovered by the muddy water after a sheep-washing, going down one passage, and the husks of oats which were sent down the other. They emerge, one at Dowgill-scar, the other at Branfil-head. Near Settle, is Giggleswick-scar, and the ebbing well; and from hence you may go to Malham. This well, at Settle, ebbs and flows four or five times in an hour, to the height of near six inches. It rises at the bottom of a prodigious ledge of rocks; runs with a plentiful stream; is inclosed in a quadrangle of stone flags, of about two feet square; and had formerly proper outlets for the current, to enable the spectator to distinguish the degrees of its rise and fall with more exactness§.

On the tops of the hills hereabouts, fires are lighted on (I think) the first day of August, the remains of a custom, the origin of which is now unknown.

We, however, for want of this information, returned to Aysgarth, and went through Bishop's-dale to Kettlewell. This dale is a narrow valley between two lofty hills, with still less of the chearing influence of the sun, than Wensley-dale can boast; so little, indeed, that they do not attempt to raise corn; but their inclosures are fine pasture, and they breed many cattle. In it are two hamlets, called Thoroby and Newliggen, both in Aysgarth parish, though at a good distance from the church.

Mr. Maude mentions a fall of water, in a deep wood at Heaning, (a house belonging to Miss Harrison,) in this dale, about two miles from Aysgarth church, and in the road; this we searched for to no purpose, nor could we get any information from the country people. There is a small stream running down a deep woody glen, but it is so overgrown, that it is not possible to follow the water; and the precise situation not being described, it may be easily missed.

That gentleman slightly mentions another fall in Bishop's-dale, called Foss Gill, which deserves more particular notice. Near the upper end of the dale, after crossing a small brook, with a farm-house on the right, a fine sheet of clear water is seen pour-

* Gent. Mag. 1761, p. 127.

§ Gent. Mag. 1760. p. 315.

† Tour to the Caves.

‡ Gent. Mag. 1761. p. 128.

ing down the right hand hill over a rock, between a few hanging trees; looking farther up, other falls are seen above it, and on examination, it is found to come from the top of the hill, which is near a mile high, in several breaks: the first seen, is about 30 yards; and one above it, 40. To see this in the best way, leave the horses at the farm-house, which is just passed, and walk across the meadows to the foot of the fall, and from thence climb to the upper ones. It will well repay the pains.

At the end of Bishop's-dale, come out on a wild dreary moor, and ascend a very long, steep hill, on the top of which are some black and dismal peat mores; the descent is as steep into Wharfdale, at a village called Buckden. A road from this place to Askrigg, across the moors, is begun, which will be much nearer, but will not make amends to the traveller who seeks amusement, for the loss of the ride by Aysgarth and Bishop's-dale. Wharf-dale, is so called from the river Wharfe, which rises in the mountains above, and is here only a small stream, but widens as it proceeds; and, after a course of 50 miles, falls into the Ouse, near Tadcaster.

Kettlewell is a little town in this dale, leading into the wild mountainous part of Yorkshire called Craven, and has some small inns. Walter Grey, archbishop of York, (temp. John) was owner of a moiety of the manor, and from him, it descended to the lords Grey, of Rotherfield*. In 6 Henry IV. it was part of the estate of Ralph Nevill, earl of Westmoreland, who had a grant of free warren in his lordship of Kettlewell, with liberty to impark 300 acres of land there; and soon after, he had a grant of free chaise in all his demesne lands at this place†.

In 1686, the inhabitants of this place and Starbottom, a village in the road to it, were almost drowned by a sudden and violent flood. The rain poured down from the hill with such violence, for an hour and half, (the hill on the side opening and casting up water into the air, to a great height) that it demolished several houses, and entirely carried away the stones with which they were built, filling up the meadows with them and gravel‡.

From hence the road to Malham (pronounced Maum) has the river on the left, and a high range of rocky hills on the right. At about three miles, is a very lofty crag, hanging, as it were, over the road; it is called Kilsoe-crag, (spelt Kilnsay) from the village of that name just beyond.

At this village, in order to have the ride over the hills, and to go directly to a large piece of water, called Malham-tarn, leave the road, turning out of it in the village on the right; after passing through two gates, come to an inclosed pasture, where an old direction-post has lost its inscription, and going in at the gate, leave the more beaten track, and cross the field, towards the steep side of a hill, on the right, where a piece of gravelly road goes strait up, and is very visible at some distance. Pursuing this, and a track which, though little used, is easily to be distinguished, and runs in nearly a straight line crossing several large inclosures divided by stone walls, you come to the water. This ride is truly wild and romantic; nature here sits in solitary grandeur on the hills, which are lofty, green to the top, and rise in irregular heaps on all hands, in their primæval state of pasture, without the least appearance of a plough, or habitation, for many miles. In the summer they afford good keep for cattle, great numbers of which are taken in to feed from April or May to Michaelmas, when the owners generally choose to take them away. The pasturage of a horse for that time, is 14s.; a cow, 7s.; a sheep, 1s. 6d. Many of these pastures, which are of great extent, have been lately divided by stone walls, of about two yards high, one yard wide at the bottom, lessening to a

* Dugd. Bar. vol. i. p. 723.

† Ibid. vol. i. p. 298.

‡ Mag. Brit.

foot at the top. A man can make about seven yards, in length, of this in a day, and is paid from 2od. to 2s. The stones brought and laid down for him, cost about 7s. more.

The Tarn has nothing beautiful in its shape or borders, being bare of trees, and every thing else to ornament it, except two or three small houses on the farther extremity, but there is a very particular circumstance attending it; at one corner it runs out in a small stream, the only outlet from it, which, in a very short space, rushes in full current into a heap of loose stones, and is there lost. At the distance of a mile it issues out again, at the foot of a stupendous rock, 200 yards high, called Maum-cove.

The road to Maum is nearly in a straight line (inclining to the left) from this ingulph, your back being to the water; but the Cove is not seen from the road, though it is very near it. From the village, following the stream upwards, you come to the magnificent front of it, which is something in the form of an amphitheatre, almost plain, but has two or three ledges, like galleries, along the face of it, wide enough, for one who has a strong head, to walk on with safety. At the foot of it, a current of water issues out, which is probably the same as is lost near the Tarn; but, in floods, the subterranean passage is not able to give vent to all the water; and, it is said, that a cataract then pours down from the top of the rock*.

But this is not the only object of attention which Maum has to present. A little mile from the village, in the direct road from Kettlewell, is a small dale called Gordale, hemmed in with rocks. Through this runs a stream, the water of which is very clear, but passing over a bed of yellow earth of the colour of ochre, it tinges the stones with a deep yellow this is thought to be a marly earth, but, unfortunately, is so situated, as not to be come at for the purposes of husbandry. Following the current you are led into a corner where the rocks hang over on each hand, in terrific majesty; and from about half way up, the stream falls over great fragments of them. Going up as far as is practicable, the water is seen gushing out through the stone from a greater height. This is a little stream which was crossed in going over the hills to the Tarn, and is ingulfed at a small distance from this place, where it broke out, after a great thunder-storm, about the year 1733.

The stone of the hills about Maum, is burnt into lime, of which six pecks, each containing 16 quarts, are delivered at the kiln mouth for 7d. It takes up a week in burning, and when it begins to be calcined, the lowest stratum is drawn out at the mouth, and more stone and coal put in at the top.

From Maum, where little accommodation can be had, a few miles bring the traveller into the great road leading from Settle to Skipton, at which last place is a very good inn called the Black Horse. Nearly where these roads meet, is the present extent of the canal from Leeds to Liverpool, on the Yorkshire side. They began at the Liverpool end at the same time, but it wants 50 miles of meeting. This is another of those great undertakings, which reflect so much honour on the present age, and will remain a lasting monument of skill and opulence. The extent will be more than 100 miles, 41 in Yorkshire, and 65 in Lancashire; passing through a country abounding, in one part with limestone, in another with coal; which will, by this means, be exchanged with great mutual advantage.

At Skipton, the castle stands at the upper end of the principal street, and, with a considerable estate, belongs to the earl of Thanet, as heir of the very ancient family of

* Tour to the Caves, p. 33. This author calls the height 100 yards; we were told on the spot, that it is 200.

Clifford. The entrance is by a gate-way, and the whole is fitted up in the stile of a castle, though little of the old one remains. It was originally built by Robert de Romely, lord of the honour of Skipton, and passing by females through several families, the honour and castle were granted, in 1309, to Robert de Clifford, a Herefordshire baron. Hen. Clifford, earl of Cumberland, defended it gallantly for Henry VIII. (with whom he had been brought up, and by whom he was much beloved) in the great Yorkshire rebellion under Aske, though he was deserted by 500 gentlemen, whom he had retained at his cost*. In 1648, it was dismantled by the parliament, because it had been held by a loyal garrison; after which, it was repaired, in its present form, by that very extraordinary lady, Anne, countess of Pembroke and Montgomery, sole heiress of the Cliffords. At the farther end, is an octagon room on the ground floor, and another of the same shape over it: the tapestry is very singular, representing the punishment of different vices. In one of the apartments is a curious picture, in shape of a skreen of three folds, with the genealogy and history of the Cliffords, of which I shall beg leave to transcribe the following account, from Mr. Pennant's very valuable work.

"In the centre, is the celebrated George Clifford, earl of Cumberland, the hero of the reign of Elizabeth; and his lady, Margaret Russell, daughter of Francis, second earl of Bedford. He is dressed in armour, spotted with stars of gold, but much of it is concealed by a vest and skirt reaching to his knees; his helmet and gauntlet, lying on the floor, are studded in like manner. He was born in 1558, and by the death of his father, fell under the guardianship of his royal mistress, who placed him under the tuition of Whitgift, afterwards archbishop of Canterbury. He applied himself to mathematics; but soon after leaving college, he felt the spirit of his warlike ancestors rise within him; and for the rest of his life, distinguished himself by deeds of arms, honourable to himself, and of use to his country, in not fewer than 22 voyages against Philip II., who felt the effects of his prowess against the invincible armada, against his European dominions, and his more distant ones in America. He was always successful against the enemy, but often suffered great hardships by storms, diseases, and famine. The wealth which he acquired, was devoted to the service of the state; for he spent, not only the acquisition of his voyages, but much of his paternal fortune in building ships; and much also he dissipated by his love of horse-races, tournaments, and every expensive diversion. Queen Elizabeth appointed him her champion in all her tilting matches, from the 33d year of her reign; and in all those exercises of tiltings, turnings, and courses of the field, he excelled all the nobility of his time. His magnificent armour, worn on those occasions, (adorned with roses and fleurs de lis) is actually preserved at Appleby castle, where is, besides, a copy of this picture. In the course of the life of a soldier, sailor, and courtier, he fell into the licentiousness, sometimes incident to the professions; but, as the inscription on the picture imports, the effects of his early education were then felt, for he died penitently, willingly, and christianly.

"His lady stands by him, in a purple gown and white petticoat, embroidered with gold. She pathetically extends one hand to two beautiful boys, as if in the action of

* Rapin.

† At an audience, after one of his expeditions, the Queen, perhaps designedly, dropped one of her gloves. His lordship took it up, and presented it to her: she graciously desired him to keep it as a mark of her esteem. Thus gratifying his ambition, with a reward that suited her avarice. He adorned it with diamonds, and wore it in the front of his high crowned hat, on days of tournaments. This is expressed in the fine print of him, by Robert White.

dissuading her lord from such dangerous voyages, when more interesting and tender claims urged the presence of a parent. How must he have been affected by his refusal, when he found that he had lost both on his return from two of his expeditions, if the heart of a hero does not too often divest itself of the tender sensations!

"The letters of this lady are extant in MS. and also her diary; she unfortunately marries without liking, and meets with the same return. She complains greatly of the coolness of her lord, and his neglect of his daughter Anne Clifford; and endured great poverty, of which she writes in a most moving strain, to James I. to several great persons, and to the earl himself. All her letters are humble, suppliant, and pathetic; yet the earl was said to have parted with her, on account of her high spirit.

"Above the two principal figures, are the heads of two sisters of the earl, Anne, countess of Warwick, and Elizabeth, countess of Bath; and two, the sisters of the countess, Frances, married to Philip, lord Wharton; and Margaret, countess of Derby. Beneath each is a long inscription. The several inscriptions were composed by Anne Clifford, with the assistance of Judge Hales, who perused and methodized for her the necessary papers and evidences.

"The two side leaves, shew the portrait of her celebrated daughter, Anne Clifford, afterwards countess of Dorset, Pembroke, and Montgomery; the most eminent person of her age for intellectual accomplishments, for spirit, magnificence, and deeds of benevolence. Both these paintings are full lengths: the one represents her at the age of 13 standing in her study, dressed in white, embroidered with flowers, her head adorned with great pearls. One hand is on a music-book, her lute lies by her. The books inform us of the fashionable course of reading among people of rank in her days. I perceived among them, Eusebius, St. Augustine, sir Philip Sidney's *Arcadia*, Godfrey of Bologne, the French Academy, Camden, Ortelius, Agrippa on the vanity of the occult sciences, &c. &c. Above are the heads of Mr. Samuel Daniel, her tutor, and Mrs. Anne Taylor, her governess; the last appearing, as the inscription says she was, a religious and good woman. This memorial of the instructors of her youth, is a most grateful acknowledgment of the benefits she received from them. She was certainly a most happy subject to work on; for, according to her own account, old Mr. John Denham, a great astronomer, in her father's house, used to say, that the sweet influence of *Pleiades*, and the bands of *Orion*, were powerful both at her conception and birth; and when she grew up, Dr. Donne is reported to have said of her, that she knew well how to discourse of all things, from predestination to flea-filk.

"In the other leaf she appears in her middle age, in the state of widowhood, dressed in a black gown, black veil, and white sleeves, and round her waste is a chain of great pearls; her hair long and brown; her wedding-ring on the thumb of her right hand, which is placed on the Bible, and Charron's book of Wisdom. The rest of the books are of piety, excepting one of distillations and excellent medicines. Such is the figure of the heroic daughter of a hero father, whose spirit dictated this animated answer to the insolent minister of an ungrateful court, who would force into one of her boroughs, a person disagreeable to her.

"I have been bullied by an usurper; I have been neglected by a court; but I will not be dictated to by a subject. Your man sha'nt stand.

"Anne, Dorset, Pembroke, and Montgomery."

"Above her are the heads of her two husbands, Richard earl of Dorset who died in 1624; an amiable nobleman, a patron of men of letters, and bounteous to distressed worth. The other is of that brutal simpleton Philip earl of Pembroke,

Pembroke, the just subject of Butler's ridicule, whom she married six years after the death of her first lord. Yet she speaks favourably of each, notwithstanding their mental qualities were so different; 'these two lords, says she, to whom I was by the Divine Providence married, were in their several kinds, worthy noblemen as any in the kingdom; yet it was my misfortune to have crosses and contradictions with them both. Nor did there want malicious ill-willers to blow and foment the coals of dissention between us, so as in both their life-times the marble pillars of Knowle in Kent, and Wilton in Wiltshire, were to me but the gay arbours of anguish, insomuch as a wise man, who knew the inside of my fortune, would often say, that I lived in both these my lords great families, as the river of Roan, or Rodanus, runs through the lake of Geneva, without mingling any part of its streams with that of the lake.

"But she was released from her second marriage by the death of her husband in 1650, after which the greatness of her mind broke out in full and uninterrupted lustre. She rebuilt, or repaired, six of her ancient castles; she restored seven churches or chapels; founded one hospital, and repaired another. She lived in vast hospitality at all her castles by turns, on the beautiful motive of dispensing her charity in rotation, among the poor of her vast estates. She travelled in a horse-litter, and often took new and bad roads from castle to castle, in order to find out cause of laying out money among the indigent, by employing them in the repairs. The opulent also felt the effect of her generosity, for she never suffered any visitors to go away without a present, ingeniously contrived according to their quality. She often sat in person as sheriffs of the county of Westmoreland; at length died at the age of 86, in 1676, and was interred at Appleby. Her great possessions devolved to John earl of Thanet, who married Margaret, her eldest daughter by the earl of Dorset.

"Here are four heads of this illustrious countess, in the states of childhood, youth, middle, and old age."

Mr. Pennant says, that the picture shewn as that of Fair Rosamond, is fictitious.

Lord Thanet is availing himself of a rock of limestone at the back of the castle, but at the expence of the trees there. A cut is made from it to the navigable canal, which runs close by the town, and the stone is put into boats at once.

On the steeple of the church is an inscription, signifying that it was repaired by lady Clifford, countess of Pembroke, in 1655, after it had been ruined in the civil wars. In the church are inscriptions on plain stones, in memory of the three first earls of Cumberland.

Near this place are some sulphur-wells; one called Broughton-Spaw, in the road between Skipton and Coln; another about a mile off, called Crickle-Spaw; and two at Skipton, called the Old and New Wells*.

From Skipton ascend a long, steep hill, called Romaldsmoor, at the descent of which again meet with the Wharfe, now considerably enlarged, which runs near the road the rest of the way to Otley. On the opposite side is a very handsome house of sir James Ibbetson, not quite finished. Pass also an old seat of the ancient family of Vavasor.

At Otley is a bridge of five arches over the river, so narrow, that two carriages cannot pass, but it is widening. From it is seen a new-built seat of Mr. Fawkes, called Farnley-hall, at no great distance.

At the end of the town, going to Leeds, is a hill called the Chevin, (which is a British word, signifying the ridge of a mountain) as steep and long as that from Skipton,

* Short, p. 300, 301.

but presenting a very different view; that looks down on a meagre valley, this affords one of the most beautiful prospects that is any where to be seen, or that imagination can form an idea of. The hill itself is healthy and bare, rising on the right hand high over the road, and is rough with rude masses of stone, but below is a wide and rich vale, extending many miles, the river Wharfe meandering through it, and shewing itself in a broad stream in various and long reaches. The town of Otley, sir James Ibbetson's, sir ——— Vavasor's, Mr. Fawkes's, and other seats, are dispersed in it; the hedge-rows are ornamented with trees, the inclosures are corn-fields, or verdant meadows. The dark mountains about Skipton are seen behind; opposite, and towards the right, the hills about Knaresborough and Harrowgate shew their tops. An exceeding fine day enlivened the scene, and it was with reluctance that I took my leave of it.

The approach to Leeds, on this, as on the other side, is marked with the villas of the opulent inhabitants.

A few miles from Leeds is Temple Newsome, the seat of lord Irwin, whose ancestor, sir Arthur Ingram, purchased it about the end of the reign of Henry VIII. of Matthew, earl of Lenox, father of the unhappy lord Darnley, who was born here. Sir Arthur built the present house, in which there is a capital collection of pictures.

About six miles from Pomfret is Medley, the seat of sir John Savil, earl of Mexborough, (an Irish title) said to be fitted up in so rich and elegant a manner, as to be well worth seeing.

Passing through Barnsley again, turn off on the left to see the marquis of Rockingham's seat, called Wentworth Castle. It may not be amiss to mention that there is no inn at the place, scarce an ale-house, but as it lies between Barnsley and Rotherham, the traveller, who is apprized of it, will not find himself under any difficulty.

The house has a magnificent and extensive front, 600 feet long, but it was placed by the marquis's father in a most unfortunate situation, looking directly on a large hill, rising immediately before it, which obstructs the view of the water, and the most beautiful ground in the park. Much money has been expended in removing part of this hill, but with little effect, and to remove the whole would cost half as much as to rebuild the house. The stables are also directly before the windows, but these will be pulled down, as the marquis has built a fine court of new ones, for 84 horses, at a little distance. The portico of the house is particularly elegant.

The hall is a very noble one, 60 feet square, 40 high, with a gallery 10 feet wide running round the whole. This is supported by 18 Ionic pillars, which are incrusting with a paste, called Scioli, exactly resembling marble. Above the gallery are 18 pilasters of the Corinthian order. There is a suite of rooms to the right of the hall, and another to the left, the latter not finished. The gallery at the end of the house, is 130 feet by 18, and there are a great number of other apartments, but few pictures. In one of the bed rooms is a curious cabinet of ivory, tortoiseshell, and ebony. The library has many books, but not in order, and there is a collection of medals, reputed a capital one. In the anti-room of the marquis's bed-chamber, in the attic story, is the famous picture by Vandyke, of the earl of Stafford and his secretary.

About a mile from the house is a plantation of six acres, laid out in walks, in which is a house for occasional entertainment. From hence an avenue leads to an amphitheatre, below which are ruins to represent an ancient religious house.

In the park* there are many fine points of view; but these things are trifles when compared with the advantage which the public, as well as individuals, derive from

* An obelisk was erected in 1780 in memory of the trial and acquittal of admiral Keppell.

his noble and spirited improvements in husbandry. He was at great expence, and took infinite pains to remove long subsisting errors and prejudices (no where more deeply rooted than in the bosoms of farmers, and no where more prevalent than in this country), but had the satisfaction of seeing his endeavours crowned with success. His draining of wet lands, his cultivation of turnips, and introduction of the hoe, without which they were of little or no service; the new instruments which he brought into use, and the improvement of the old ones, will bring him the most lasting honour. He set the example on land which he took into his own hands; and he had one farm managed in the Kentish husbandry, another in the Hertfordshire, by men whom he brought from thence, in order to form the better opinion on the merits of each, carried on under his immediate inspection.

Proceed to Rotheram, famous for its iron works so long ago as Leland's time; they were once gone to decay, but now flourish as much as ever. Mr. Walker has a manufactory here, in which every process is gone through, from the rough iron stone, to the polishing the instruments. The iron ore, and the coal with which it is worked, are both dug near the town. They have also a pottery, and burn lime, so that there is plenty of employment for the inhabitants. In this town a college was founded by Thomas Rotheram, archbishop of York (who probably took his name from hence) in the time of Edward IV. for the purpose of teaching singing.

Near this town are the fine ruins of Roch Abbey.

From Rotheram ride by Kiveton, an old house of the duke of Leeds, which being little inhabited does not make a cheerful appearance. The hall is 50 feet by 30, painted by sir James Thornhill. There is a drawing-room 24 feet square, a dining-room 36 by 25, another drawing-room 25 feet square, a saloon 54 by 34, a vestibule 23 feet square, and another drawing-room 33 by 31. Here are many pictures; amongst the portraits, there are in the anti-room, the earl of Worcester by Holbein, the marquis of Montrose by Vandyke, the king and queen of Bohemia, and lord Cecil. In the second drawing-room are the earls of Strafford and Derby, by Vandyke; Erasmus and sir Thomas More by Holbein. In one of the dressing-rooms is Philip II. of Spain by Titian. In one of the bed-chambers Charles I. on horseback, by Vandyke; and in another the duke of Florence and Machiavel. In the last drawing-room is Alderman Hewett, (lord mayor of London in the time of queen Elizabeth, whose daughter and heir married sir Edward Osborne, ancestor of the duke,) the earl of Strafford and his secretary, and the earl of Arundell, by Vandyke.

This family was enobled in the person of sir Thomas Osborne, created by Charles II. baron of Kiveton, and earl of Danby. He was an active minister of that king, very unacceptable to the commons, who being disappointed in their first impeachment, pursued him with a bill of attainder, on which he surrendered himself, and lay five years in the Tower before he could obtain his liberty, though he was never brought to trial. He took a considerable part in the revolution, and was by king William created marquis of Carmarthen, and duke of Leeds.

Ride through Kiveton-park, and by Mr. Hewett's at Shire-oaks, to Workfop, to which priory Shire-oaks was formerly a grange.

From hence to Mansfield the ride is through Workfop and Wellbeck parks, the seats of the dukes of Norfolk and Portland, which are separated only by a small common.

Workfop manor is about half a mile from the town, and was anciently the estate of the Lovetofts, or Luvetots, a great family, who in 3 Henry I. founded a priory here for canons regular of the order of St. Augustin. In the reign of Henry II. it passed

by

by a daughter and heir to the Furnivals*, from whom it descended in like manner, 6 Richard II., to Thomas de Nevill†. He left two daughters and coheirs, one of whom married the great John Talbot, earl of Shrewsbury (as mentioned at Sheffield) and carried Workfop into that family. Francis, earl of Shrewsbury, had the priory given him on the dissolution, in exchange for other lands‡. The mansion-house was rebuilt with great magnificence by George earl of Shrewsbury. Gilbert, his son and successor, died in 1616, leaving three daughters and coheirs, of whom Alethea married Thomas earl of Arundell, (ancestor of the present duke of Norfolk) and brought him this, and the Sheffield estate.

This nobleman was grandson of the duke of Norfolk who lost his life by the jealousy of Elizabeth, rather than by any crime of his own, and by means of that attainder had only the title of Arundell, which belonged to him in the right of his grandmother the coheirefs of the Fitz-Alans. He made that noble collection of antique statues and marbles, a part of which is now one great ornament of the university of Oxford, being presented to it by his grandson Henry. They were originally placed in Arundell-House in the Strand; and when that house was pulled down, some of them were left there, and were much damaged by the carelessness of the workmen; a great part of these were purchased in that condition by sir William Fermer, and sent to his seat at Easton Neston in Northamptonshire, where they continued till 1755, when the countess of Pomfret presented them to the university. Some of the broken fragments were begged by one Cuper, an old servant of the family, and carried by him across the water to the place called from him Cuper's Gardens, where they continued a considerable time; but being accidentally seen by Mr. Freeman, of Fawley Court, near Henley on Thames, and Mr. Waller, of Beaconsfield, were purchased by those gentlemen and carried to their seats. Others of these remains were buried in the foundations of the houses at the bottom of Norfolk-street, and in the gardens of Arundell-House; one of the statues was found in a cellar by Mr. Aislabe, and carried to his seat in Yorkshire. Others were carried by the duke of Norfolk to a piece of ground across the water which he got for that purpose; but being there neglected, they were at length covered with rubbish brought to raise the ground. About 1712, in digging foundations for some buildings intended to be erected on the spot, some parts were dug up, and laid on the ground, where the earl of Burlington heard of, and begged them. He carried them to Chiswick, and one piece of bas-relief he placed in the pedestal of an obelisk, which he erected there. Some years after this, lord Petre desired to make farther search after what were so buried, and found six statues without heads or arms, some of a colossal size, the drapery of which was thought to be very fine; these were sent to Workfop.

Besides these marbles, the earl had a curious collection of cameo's and intaglio's, which the dutchess, who was divorced, and afterwards married to sir John Germain, carried with her§. These were, I think, sold at Mr. Langford's a few years ago, on the death of lady Betty Germain. Another part of the collection of curiosities was sold at Stafford house, near Buckingham Gate, in 1720.

The character which lord Clarendon gives of this noble earl, as if, though willing to be thought a scholar, he was in reality almost illiterate, seems utterly improbable; and his lordship gives a most ill-natured turn, to what may more properly be called an instance of true magnanimity: on the accession of Charles, the earl (who was a protestant) had spoken very freely in the House of Peers of the favourite Buckingham, and

* Dugd. Par. v. i. p. 569.

† Ibid. p. 301, 727.

‡ Ibid. p. 333.

§ Howard's Anecdotes of the Howard Family.

was by the king sent to the Tower without a charge of any crime, and kept there till the house resenting it as a breach of their privilege, and refusing to proceed on any business till he was discharged, compelled the king to release him, which he at last did, without giving even a hint of that "most just cause" for which he pretended to detain him. Lord Clarendon in giving his character, amongst other things says, "that he lived towards all favourites and great officers, without any kind of condescension, and rather suffered himself to be ill-treated by their power and authority, (for he was often in disgrace, and once or twice prisoner in the Tower) than to descend in making application to them." But he might with much more propriety have imputed this to the high spirit of a virtuous nobleman deriving dignity from the most illustrious descent, and justly despising the Somersets, Buckinghams, and other upstart minions of the time; and as to his imprisonment, his lordship might have said, that conscious of his integrity, and of the flagrant violation in his person of the rights of the peers and of the law, he scorned to make any unbecoming submission to obtain that freedom of which he had been so arbitrarily deprived.

A few years ago the old mansion-house was entirely burnt down, with all the furniture and pictures. The late duke began a new one on a plan which would have made it the most magnificent palace in England, if completed. The present building, which is only one side of an intended quadrangle, is not unworthy the residence of the first peer in the kingdom. The front is of white stone, extending more than 300 feet in length, and is elegant and grand. In the centre is a portico, with six Corinthian pillars supporting a pediment, on the points of which are three statues, and in the centre of it an emblematical carving, referring to the great alliances of the family. A balustrade, adorned with urns, runs along the top of the house. This is to the north, and was designed for the back front; in it are ten rooms below, and twelve above, with twenty-six in the attic story. In the south side are two galleries, one used for breakfasting, the other for a billiard-room. The grand drawing-room is 53 feet by 30, and is hung with Gobelin tapestry, representing great variety of men, plants and animals of the different quarters of the globe, well drawn, and of the most lively and beautiful colours. The dining-room is 42 by 28. The stair-case is large and handsome, the iron rails light, and the painting in fresco on the pannels is striking; the figures are so relieved, that they perfectly stand out from the wall. It is the performance of one Bruyn, a Fleming.

The pictures, which are here, were brought from other seats; there is no catalogue of them. The following are the chief:

The earl of Arundel, and lady Alethea Talbot, his wife, sitting, and looking at a globe. From this picture a print has been engraved.

A whole length of this earl, sitting, pointing to his statues.

A whole length of the earl of Surry, 1546, æt. 29, in an embroidered waistcoat and short breeches, a cloak on, a collar of the order of the garter, a garter on his leg, a short sword with a gold hilt, a glove in his hand.

A half length of him in another room.

A good portrait of Charles I.

Cain and Abel.

A duke, with his staff as lord high treasurer, and another staff as earl marshal.

Another in a robe faced with ermine.

A whole length of the earl of Nottingham, who commanded against the Spanish Armada, in a long gown reaching to his heels.

The late duke's father, who was lost at sea, a young man.

The late duke, by Reynolds, the colour (as usual) gone.

Cardinal Howard, and several other family portraits.

Near the house is a flower-garden, in which is a large green-house, well filled with exotics. The bowling-green is a very spacious one, surrounded by most beautiful lofty firs, feathered to the very ground. At a small distance is the pleasure-ground, and an extensive menagery, in which the late duchess had a numerous collection of birds.

In the fruit-garden are variety of hot-houses and hot-walls, all new built by the late duke.

The park is about eight miles round, with a noble boundary of wood.

The priory of Workfop was founded by William de Luvetot, with the consent of Emme his wife, in 31 Henry I. for canons regular of the order of St. Augustine*. He, with his son and grandson, the last male of the Furnivals, Joane, wife of Thomas Neville, her husband and daughter, and John, grandson of the first earl of Shrewsbury, are some of the illustrious persons who have been buried in this church†. On the dissolution it was valued at 302l. 6s. 10d. or 239l. 10s. 5d. clear‡: and was granted in 33 Henry VIII. to Francis, earl of Shrewsbury (descended from the founder). The west end of the priory church is now used as the parish church, standing at a small distance from the town, on the east side of it. It consists of a nave and two side aisles, the pillars, which are alternately round and octangular, supporting circular arches, ornamented with quatre-foils; there are two rows of windows above them, placed alternately, one over the arch, the other over the pillar. At the east end of the south aisle is a tomb defaced, and three large statues in a recumbent posture, two of them men, one a women, brought from some other place, now lying on the ground. There is a very antique wooden cover to the font. The west door has a circular arch, and on each side is a lofty steeple. Some broken walls remain at the east end of the church, but not in a straight line with it. On the north side, a few fragments of walls have been converted into small houses, some of them joining to the church. In the meadows below, many foundations were discovered on re-building the mill, about the year 1774. The gate-house remains; a room over it is made use of for a school. Next the street, on each side the gateway, is a niche, the statues gone; on each side of the window above is a large statue in a niche, and one over it.

In 1547, the impropriation of this place (amongst others) was given to the see of Lincoln, in exchange for many manors conveyed by bishop Holbech§.

The navigation from Chesterfield to the Trent, goes by the bottom of the town, and has reduced the price of coals from 7d. or 8d. to 4d½. per hundred.

On the west side of the town is a circular hill, inclosed with a trench, except on one side, where there is a steep bank going down to a branch of the little river. This was the site of the castle, which was "clene down" in Leland's time||.

A visit to Wellbeck abbey and Bolsover castle, may be conveniently made from hence, and will employ a day; after which you may go from Workfop, through Clumber Park, Thoresby Park, and by Rufford to Nottingham; or may go by Wellbeck to Mansfield, and from thence by Newstead, (once the beautiful seat of

* Dugd. Mon. v. ii. p. 25, 50.

§ Willis's Cath. v. iii. p. 37.

† Thoroton's Nott.

|| Itin. v. i. p. 84.

‡ Camden, v. i. p. 439.

lord Byron, but now desolated by him*) and by the late sir Charles Sedley's, to Nottingham.

The ride to Wellbeck is through the duke of Norfolk's park, and part of the plantations made by the late duchess: a small common only parts it from the duke of Portland's.

This house was founded by Thomas le Flemman, in the reign of Henry II. for canons of the Præmonstratensian order†, that is, the order of St. Austin as reformed. The abbot had the superiority of all the houses of this order in England‡. It was valued at the dissolution, at 298l. 4s. 8d. or 249l. 6s. 3d. clear§. It was granted, on the dissolution, to Richard Whalley||; but became afterwards the estate of sir Charles Cavendish, youngest son of sir William by the countess of Shrewsbury; he married one of the daughters, and, at length, sole heir of lord Ogle; which barony descended to their son William, who was also honoured with the titles of baron Cavendish of Bolsover, viscount Mansfield, earl, marquis, and at last duke, of Newcastle. He was author of the treatise on horsemanship, and built the riding house here, since converted into a stable, now restored to its original use. This gentleman took a most active part in favour of Charles I. and, perhaps, suffered more in his fortune by that means, than any one besides, his losses being computed at 941,303l. This was the only one of his parks that was not ruined in the civil war; and was saved by the good management of the gallant sir Charles Cavendish, the duke's younger brother¶. His grandson dying without issue, his grand-daughter Margaret, married to John Hollis, afterwards created duke of Newcastle, became heir to this estate: she left only one child, a daughter, who married Edward, afterwards earl of Oxford, whose daughter and heir married William, duke of Portland, father of the present duke. Nothing of the abbey remains in the present house, except some arches in the cellar.

The hall is fitted up with Gothic arches, of plaister or wood-work on the walls, above which are painted in compartments, a number of manege horses, in various attitudes. From the hall you are shewn a suite of five bed-rooms, in one of which is a whole length of Charles II. when very young, in armour. The dining-room is 59 feet by 36, the ceiling coved: in this room are the pictures of

Sir Hugh Middleton, the gentleman who ruined himself, and benefited the city of London so much, by bringing the new river to Islington, to supply it with water. He has short grey hair, a ruff, turn-up lace ruffles.

An original of Thomas earl of Strafford, by Vandyke, a whole length.

Col. Digby, his lady, and two children.

William Cavendish, first duke of Newcastle, the faithful and active friend of Charles I. He is dressed in black, slashed sleeves, a large fall-down lace ruff, a gold hilted sword, the garter on his leg, black roses in his shoes.

Matthew Prior.

In the anti-room is a picture of Archbishop Laud, in lawn sleeves, his hair short.

* Newstead priory was built by Henry II. for canons of the order of St. Augustin, and has been the seat of the Byrons ever since the dissolution when it was given to sir John Byron, being valued at 219l. 18s. 8d. or 167l. 16s. 11d. clear. The west front of the church is standing, with four turrets, and adjoins to the house. The park was once finely wooded, but the present owner, in spite to his son, has cut down all the oaks. There is a good piece of water, with a cascade; but, stripped of its surrounding groves, its beauty is gone.

† Dugd. Mon. v. ii. p. 598.

‡ Burn's Eccl. Law, v. ii. p. 53.

§ Deering's Nott. p. 299.

|| Thoroton's Nott. p. 450.

¶ Collins's Historical Collections, p. 43.

The drawing-room has some French looking-glasses of great size.

The breakfast-room seems to have undergone no alteration since the house was built, but the principal rooms have been fitted up by the present duke, who has also made much alteration in the park. In one part of his designs he has been unlucky; he made an extensive lake, and threw over it a magnificent bridge of three arches, the centre arch being a span of ninety feet, the two side ones seventy-five each, but it fell down almost as soon as completed, and has not been rebuilt.

The park is about eight miles round. In it are many noble old oaks, and the venerable one called Greendale oak, (of which several prints have been published) with a road cut through it, is still to be seen with one green branch. The stumps of those branches which have been cut, or broken off, are guarded with leaden plates to prevent the wet from getting in, and occasioning further decay. In another part of the park, (nearer the gate which goes in from Worktop) is a remarkable tree, called the Seven Sisters, from its consisting of seven stems springing up from one root; one of these, however, is now broken off.

About three miles from hence is a place called Creswell-crag, a place where the rocks have been rent asunder in some violent convulsion, which would appear striking before those at Matlock, Middleton-dale, &c. have been seen, but which exhibits only a miniature picture of those more magnificent scenes. On asking the way to it, one of the duke's attendants took a horse, and rode with us to it, by a road (rocky and bad) which we should hardly have found without a guide. This was such a piece of civility as cannot be mentioned without particular pleasure, nor should it be forgot that he refused to accept any gratuity.

Three miles further, through the village of West Elmdon, and by a very rough and stony road, came to the little town or village of Bolsover, at the end of which is a castle bearing the same name, seated on the brink of a hill, overlooking a great extent of country. This castle was seized on by the barons, who rebelled against King John, and was taken from them by William Ferrers, earl of Derby, in the 16th of that king; and he being appointed governor, held it for six years; and in 19 Henry III. again had the custody of it*; but Bryan de l'Isle, a steady adherent of Henry, had been appointed governor of it twice in the mean while†. On the death of the last earl of Chester, without male issue, Ada, wife of Henry de Hastings, one of his sisters, had this manor as part of her allotment‡. Leland speaks of the castle as being in ruins in his time. The present building is nothing more than a house, as ill-contrived and inconvenient as ever was formed. By the arms carved in stone over the door, which are those of Cavendish, with a crescent for difference, empaling Ogle, it is to be supposed, that it was built by sir Charles Cavendish, mentioned at Wellbeck, and descended, with that estate, to the duke of Portland, the present owner; the outer court, in which are stables and offices, is large, and walled in; within that is a smaller, also walled in and paved, in which stands the house, built of brown stone, square, and lofty. A flight of steps lead through a passage into a hall, not large, the roof supported by stone pillars, and from thence into the only room designed for habitation on this floor; In the centre of it is a pillar supporting an arched roof, in the manner of that at Christ Church in Oxford, but much less light. Round this pillar is a plain circular table, used to dine on. Up stairs is one room moderately large, and within it a very small one, which, from an old tea-table, and a set of old china standing on it, seems to have been used as a drawing-room. In the large room are several coats of arms paint-

* Dugd. Bar. v. i. p. 261.

† Ibid. p. 737.

‡ Ibid. p. 45.

ed; Cavendish empaling Ogle, and in different places the latter is painted alone. The rest of the rooms are very small, and not numerous. The floors of all are plaister. From the windows in general, the prospects of the country are rich and extensive, reaching still farther from the leads on the top of the house. Beneath, at a small distance, lies Sutton, with its park, the seat of the late Mr. Clarke; farther off the lofty towers of Hardwick are seen amongst the woods.

What was wanting in these rooms seems to have been supplied by a range of building, which is now ruined, standing on a noble terrace, commanding a magnificent prospect in its full extent; the side walls and the floor of the apartments, which were entered from the terrace by a grand flight of steps, are all that remain, the roof having been taken off long ago. It is said these rooms were fitted up for the reception of Charles I. who, having visited the earl of Newcastle (as he was then called) at Welbeck, in his progress into Scotland in 1633, was so well pleased with the magnificent entertainment he met with, that a year or two afterwards he made him a second visit with his queen; on this occasion he gave up Bolsover for their majesties' lodging, and spared neither industry nor cost to add splendor to the entertainment, which cost him above 14,000*l*. Ben Johnson was employed in fitting such scenes and speeches as were proper on the occasion, and all the gentry in the country were sent for to wait on their majesties. This place was seized by the parliament after the duke went abroad, and was sold and begun to be pulled down, but was then bought by sir Charles, the duke's younger brother, and so restored to the family*.

In the church is a noble monument in memory of the first sir Charles Cavendish, set up by his widow, (the daughter of lord Ogle) and his two surviving sons. On the south side of the church is an additional building as a burial-place for the family, on the battlement of which is cut in capital letters the motto of the family, *CAVENDO TUTUS*. On one side are the Cavendish arms, on the other those of Ogle. Others of the family are buried in it. This church was given by William Ferrers, earl of Derby, in 36 Hen. III. to the canons of Derby (near Derby)†.

Return to Worktop, and take the road to Clumber-park, the seat of the duke of Newcastle; it is a creation of his own, begun little more than twenty years ago, being originally a rabbit-warren. It is now a park of near thirteen miles round, filled with many and large thriving plantations, and having a very good house, most elegantly fitted up and furnished. The front is of white stone, brought from a quarry on his grace's estate about five miles off. The offices are in a very spacious court on the left of the house.

In the common drawing room, is a large and very fine picture by Teniers, some most beautiful female heads, in crayons, by Hoare, and a piece of game by Rubens.

In the great drawing-room, is a most capital picture of Rembrandt by himself; a lion and boar by Rubens; and other good pictures.

In the common dining-room, are two fine heads by Rubens; the Kit-cat club, and the Prodigal Son, by Domenichino.

The library is a large fine room, furnished with a great number of books in splendid bindings. From a small anti-room belonging to it you go into the dressing-room to the state-room, in which is a portrait of the late Mr. Henry Pelham, in his gown, as chancellor of the exchequer; the late lord Lincoln (his grace's eldest son) a whole-

* Collins's Collections, p. 22, 24, 26.

† Dugd. Bar. v. i. p. 262.

length by Hoare; the late duke's father and mother; the present duke's father and mother; the late and present duke.

The state bed-room was not completed.

In the breakfast-room is a portrait of the first earl of Lincoln.

The great dining-room is a noble one, looking to the water and the bridge; in it are four large and most capital pieces of game by Snyders, with figures by Rubens, who in one of them has introduced himself and two of his wives. Over the chimney is a piece of game, by Wenix*.

Cross the bridge, and through another part of the park to Thoresby, the late duke of Kingston's, which is very near to it.

This is rather a comfortable house than a magnificent feat. The entrance is in the basement story into a hall, adjoining to which are a breakfast-room, a dining-room, and drawing-room. A pair of stone stairs leads out of the hall to the next story; at the top of the first flight they divide into two, and lead into a circular room lighted by a large sky-light in the roof, and having a gallery which runs round it at the height of feet, in which are the doors of the bed-rooms. The sides of this room are of the same composition as is used in the hall at lord Rockingham's, resembling yellow marble; on the sides are pillars and pilasters, mostly white, but some resembling verd antique. The floor is of the same composition. Out of this room you go into a large drawing-room hung with pictures, prints, and drawings; on the right is a small library, on the left a very elegant drawing-room. The duchess made some gardens with covered arbors, in the German taste. There are some pieces of water near the house, on one of which is a large vessel for sailing. We were told that the park is thirteen miles round.

At Palethorp, adjoining to the park, is a good inn, and three miles farther is the little town of Ollerton, with a good inn in it.

From Ollerton it is two miles to Rufford, a large old seat of sir George Saville, the approach to which is through the avenues of large limes, beeches, &c. Here was an abbey of the Cistercian order, founded by Gilbert, earl of Lincoln, in 1148. On the dissolution the house and site, with about 1000 acres of land, three water-mills, and the fishery, were granted to George, earl of Shrewsbury. The clear value was then 246l. 15s. 5d. Dugdale's valuation is 176l. 12s. 6d. Speed's, 254l. 6s. 8d. Sir George Saville married Mary, daughter of George earl of Shrewsbury, grandson of that earl to whom it was granted. King James and Charles the First used to come hither in order to hunt in the forest of Shirewood†.

From a large hall you go into a handsome dining-room, and on the same floor is a drawing-room, a billiard-room, and a bed-room. In the billiard-room is a picture of Buckhorse, the poor wretch who some years ago was so well known for his readiness to engage in a boxing-match, in which he would often come off conqueror in the end, by suffering his antagonist to beat him till he had exhausted his strength, after which he would beat him in his turn.

Up stairs is a gallery, 38 yards long and 12 broad, in which are many valuable portraits.

Lord and lady Coventry. A portrait of a young man, with the following inscription round the frame; "Le seigneur H. D. partit son vie naturell en service du Prince a Saintquenten avecque

* I do not recollect whether the famous picture of Sigismunda, sold in sir Luke Schaub's sale for upwards of 400l. is at this house. It, however, belongs to the duke, and is not less remarkable for its original merit, than for Hogarth's attempt to rival it.

† Thoroton's Nott. p. 433.

honneur & l'amour du soldaux and du monde." There are smaller letters by the side of the head, of which I could only discover so much as that he was 20 and an half years old.

Sir George Saville, grandfather of the present.

Earl of Halifax with his two wives, and first wife's father.

The earl's father, in a buff coat and iron breast plate, with long lank hair, his wife and four daughters.

Gilbert, earl of Shrewsbury, a whole length, his face fresh-coloured, small black whiskers; he has on a black cloak over a grey habit, short trunk hose, a blue ribband hanging round his neck down on his breast, a George pendant thereon, a short silver-hilted sword.

Dutcheffs of Northumberland.

George, earl of Shrewsbury, a whole length, his beard rather long and inclined to grey, a black cloak laced with gold, and faced with a broad white border, black cloaths, short trunk hose, puckered ruffles, a ruff round his neck, a short gold-hilted sword, the garter on his left leg, a glove in his right hand.

Sir Henry Sidney (a three-quarter piece) with black whiskers and beard, a stern look.

Duke of Northumberland.

Over this is Robert earl of Essex.

Over the door king Edward the VIth.

In a small room is a settee and some chairs worked by an aunt of sir George from prints of the Harlot's Progress, some of them well copied.

In the attic story are a very great number of bed-rooms. In one of them is a good portrait of a youth reading; in another a head of Jedediah Buxton.

In another is a picture of Anna Bullen on wood; but she does not appear so handsome here as Holbein has made her in one which is preserved at Lofely, in Surrey.

From Ollerton the ride is over the forest to Nottingham; but beyond Rufford, sir George Saville has made many large plantations of trees. Further on, a considerable tract has been inclosed, and is now under the plough, but the soil is a very poor sand, bearing however tolerable barley.

Four miles before coming to Nottingham is the little village of Red-hill.

Nottingham is a fair, well-built, populous town. Here was formerly a strong castle, in which the Danes, in the time of the Heptarchy, held out a siege against Buthred king of Mercia, Alfred and Ethelred his brother, kings of the West Saxons.

Soon after the Conquest, William either repaired this fortress, or built a new one on the same spot, in the second year of his reign, probably to secure a retreat on his expedition against Edwyn earl of Chester, and Morcar earl of Northumberland, who had revolted. He committed the custody of it to William Peverell, his natural son, who has by some been considered as the founder. It stands on a steep rock, at the foot of which runs the river Leen.

It has been mentioned before, that Peverell had a grant of the Peke in Derbyshire, which is now included in the honour of Peverell; courts for that honour are held at Bessford, two miles from Nottingham, in which causes, as far as the value of 50l. are tried twice in the year before the deputy of lord Middleton, who is high steward, and in whose name writs are issued. At Bessford is the gaol; the keeper has a bowling-green, which is frequented by the gentlemen of Nottingham, and his prisoners are permitted

to wait on them, so that their confinement is not very rigorous. They are here intitled to their groats, as in the courts of Westminster-hall.

Edward IV. greatly enlarged the castle, but did not live to complete the buildings he begun, which were finished by Richard III. It went to decay in the time of Henry VII. and VIII.

Deering, in his history of Nottingham, seems to explode very justly the story of the place called Mortimer's Hole having been made as a hiding place for him, and from his description of it shews that it was meant as a private passage to the castle, to relieve it with men or provisions in a siege. It is one continued stair-case or descent, from the castle to the foot of the hill, without any room or even a place to sit down on, but with holes cut to let in light or shoot arrows from, which now furnish views of the town and country. It was formerly guarded by seven gates in it, placed at different distances*. It was by this passage that Edward III. got into the castle and surprized Mortimer and the queen, and from his being carried away through it, it has its name.

It was granted by James I. to Francis earl of Rutland, who pulled down many of the buildings; but it was still of so much strength, that Charles I. in 1642 pitched on it as the place for beginning his operations of war. He set up his standard first on the walls of the castle, but in two or three days removed it to a close on the north side of the castle without the wall, on a round spot, after which it was for many years called Standard Close, and since, from the name of one who rented it, Nevils Close. Where the standard was fixed, there stood a post for a considerable time. It is a common error, that it was erected on a place called Derry Mount, a little farther north than the close just mentioned; this is an artificial hill raised on purpose for a windmill, which formerly was there†. The castle was afterwards sequestered by the parliament, and the trees in the park cut down.

This castle was so strong that it was never taken by storm. After the civil war, Cromwell ordered it to be demolished. On the restoration, the duke of Buckingham, whose mother was daughter and heir of this Francis earl of Rutland, had it restored to him, and sold it to William Cavendish duke of Newcastle. In 1674 he began the present building, but died in 1676, when the work was not far advanced. However he had the building of it so much at heart, that he left the revenue of a considerable estate to be applied to that purpose, and it was finished by Henry his son. The expence was about 14,000l. His statue on horseback in white marble, is in the centre of the front, which looks towards the town; it is carved out of a single block of stone brought from Donnington in Leicestershire, and was the work of one Wilson, who married lady Putsey, a lady possessed of a considerable jointure; she got him knighted, and during her life he was spoiled for an artist, but not having made provision against her death, when she died he was forced to return to his former occupation‡.

This Henry had one son, who dying without issue, the estate came to John Holles fourth earl of Clare, who married one of his daughters, and was created by king William duke of Newcastle; he having no issue male, settled it on his nephew Thomas Lord Pelham (son of his youngest sister). This gentleman took a most zealous and active part in favour of the present royal family, by whom he was held in the highest esteem. He was created duke of Newcastle upon Tyne by George I., and of Newcastle under Line, with remainder to his nephew Henry earl of Lincoln, by his present majesty, who was so sensible of his services that when he was dismissed from his places

* Deering's Nottingham, p. 171, 173.

† Ibid. p. 177.

‡ Ibid. p. 186, 187.

he was offered a large pension, but with a truly noble spirit he refused it; though instead of amassing wealth by means of his great employments, he had spent a princely fortune in supporting the interest of the crown, and by living in so splendid a manner as to do honour to the places he held. He also died without issue, and settled this estate on his nephew Henry earl of Lincoln, now duke of Newcastle, the present owner.

In the park, west of the castle, and facing the river Leen, are some remains of an ancient building (if it may be so called) cut and framed in the rock. Dr. Stukeley gives it, as he does most things, to the Britons. Many other ancient excavations have been found in other parts of the rocks.

The frames for knitting stockings were invented by one William Lea, of this county, about the beginning of the last century; but he not meeting with the encouragement he expected (a case too common with the first inventors of the most useful arts) went with several of his workmen to France on the invitation of Henry IV. The death of that king, and the troubles which ensued, prevented attention being given to the work; Lea died there, and most of his men returned to England. Other attempts were made to steal the trade, without better success*; and it has flourished here ever since, and is now carried on to a very great extent.

At this town the duke of Devonshire, who had a few days before declared at Derby for a free parliament, the earl of Stamford, lord Howe, lord Delamere (afterwards earl of Warrington) and many other gentlemen, had a meeting on the landing of the prince of Orange, and here took their final resolution of joining him.

About two miles off is Clifton, the seat of a very ancient family of the same name, which has resided here many hundred years. The approach is through a long avenue, one side of which is planted on a steep bank, at the foot of which runs the Trent. The whole slope is covered with fir and elm, which were planted there about the year 1740, being then large ones, as the gardener who assisted in planting, told us. The present sir Gervase had begun to modernise his house, but broke off on the sudden death of his lady, which happened about three years ago. The gardens were on the side of a hill rising above the house, and consisted of many slopes, one above another, ascended by flights of stone steps, and had many yew hedges; at the top was a large bowling-green, beyond that is a walk through a wood, leading to a summer-house, which looks over the river Trent in the valley below, and commands the distant country.

One of the alterations in the house will be a very pleasing one; the room designed for lady Clifton's dressing-room is to the south, opening on the right and left of a bow-window into a green-house. This is making a green-house of some use; it is very common to see it placed at such a distance from the house as to be seldom visited, especially at that time of the year when it would be most pleasant, from the want of verdure and warmth elsewhere. When the trees have lost their leaves, the ground is covered with snow, and nature seems retired within itself, can any thing be more agreeable than to step from a parlour at once into the midst of a verdant grove, and the gentle warmth of summer? This is, in some degree, to realize a Persian tale; yet few have availed themselves of the idea.

There are some monuments in the church for the family.

From Nottingham it is near three miles in the Derby road to Wollaton-hall, the seat of lord Middleton, which stands on a knoll, and makes a magnificent appearance at

* Deering's Nottingham, p. 303.

considerable distances. It is square, with a square tower at each corner, adorned with pinnacles. The body of the house is a lofty single room, rising high above the rest, and having a round tower or pavilion at each corner, rising above the whole, but rounded off at the bottoms. The views through several vista's in the woods below are fine. So far may be seen, but strangers are not permitted to see the inside, even when the family is absent; a piece of pride or gloomy inhospitality, which for the credit of our country is rare. This house was built by sir Francis Willoughby in the time of queen Elizabeth.

Go by Bradmore and Bunny to Loughborough, and so to Leicester.

At Bradmore the spire of the church remains, but the body has been down some years, and the inhabitants go to the neighbouring church of Bunny, or Boney, where sir Thomas Parkyns has a seat, in the front of which is an old gateway in decay, built in a particular and heavy stile. This family have been liberal benefactors to the poor: by the church-yard gate is a school, built by a sir Thomas Parkyns about the year 1700, and four rooms at the end for four widows. Lady Ann Parkyns endowed it with 16l. a year, to which sir Thomas added 5l. a year. In the church is a monument for that lady, mentioning her virtues and charities, and her having procured queen Anne's bounty for the vicarage. There is also a monument for sir Thomas, her son, who is represented standing in a posture for wrestling, and in another part he appears thrown by Time, with the following lines written by Dr. Freind.

Quem modo stravisti longo in certamine, tempus,
Hic recubat Britonum clarus in orbe pugil.
Jam primum stratus; præter te vicerat omnes;
De te etiam victor, quando resurget, erit.

The inscription underneath takes notice of his wife's fortune, and the estates he purchased; that he rebuilt his farm-houses, was skilled in architecture and medicine, and that he wrote a book on wrestling, called *The Cornish Hug Wrestler*.

This gentleman was remarkable for his skill in that exercise; he trained many of his servants and neighbours to it, and when those manly (though now thought unpolished) diversions were in fashion, he exhibited his pupils in public with no small eclat. By his will he has left a guinea to be wrestled for here every Midsummer-day, and money to the ringers, of whom he also made one. He displayed his learning in several curious inscriptions; over a seat by the road side, *Hic sedeat Viator si tu defessus es ambulando*. The honour of a visit from a judge on the circuit, was commemorated at the horse-block by *Hinc Justiciarius Dormer equum ascendere solebat*.

In the church is a monument, with the date of 1603, for Richard Parkyns, esq. his wife, four sons, and four daughters.

About a mile before Loughborough is Cotes, an old house, once the seat of a gentleman who was ruined by his loyalty in the civil war, and the last of whose family died some years ago in a work-house. Alderman Pack of London, an Oliverian, bought it, and it now belongs to his descendant, whose house is a few miles off. On the restoration the alderman was in some danger, but Charles borrowed 10,000l. of him, and intimated that if he valued his safety he would not ask for re-payment. He took the hint; the king kept the money, and he his life.

From Leicester to Market Harborough is little that is to be noticed. Sir George Robinson's seat is at a small distance on the right. Harborough stands in the extremity of the county. The church here is supposed to have been built by John of Gaunt, duke of Lancaster, about the year 1370, by injunction of the pope, as part of his penance

penance for maintaining a criminal conversation with Catherine Swinford, afterwards his third wife. From the ground to the cross stone which finishes the steeple, is 154 feet*.

In this neighbourhood is the celebrated water of Nevil Holt.

On leaving this town you enter Northamptonshire, and pass the seats of Mr. Hanbury at Kelmarsh, Mr. Scawen at Maidwell, sir Justinian Isham at Lamport, Mr. Rainsforth at Brixworth†, the earl of Strafford at Boughton, and Mr. Freemore's near Northampton.

Northampton stands on a gentle ascent, at the foot of which runs the river Nene, which is navigable. It has been supposed that the Roman station of Eltanori, was here or hereabouts. Their coins have been taken up near Queen's cross. In Salcey forest an ancient paved road has been found; and Lathbury, a mile short of Newport Pagnel, is conjectured to have been Lectocetum, another of their stations‡.

Northampton has been the scene of many notable actions, in those times in which the power of the barons was little inferior to that of the kings. Parliaments were frequently held here till the time of Richard II. early in whose reign they were discontinued. This place was a favourite seat of the clergy, who had many religious houses in it, and in the reign of Henry III. an attempt was made to remove the university from Oxford hither; but the scholars taking a very active part with the barons against the king, he sent them back to Oxford. A like attempt was made at a transplantation from Cambridge, but the design was soon given up§. That king granted the farm to the inhabitants of the town in the 11th year of his reign, reserving a rent of 120l. a year. Edward III. granted 66l. 13s. 4d. part of this, to his free chapel of Windsor, to be paid by the bailiffs of the town. Henry VIII. soon after his accession, released 22l. a year further part of it||. The castle was built by Simon St. Liz, earl of Northampton, in 1084¶, the river running at the foot of it on the west side; most of what remained of it was pulled down, with the walls and gates of the town, soon after the restoration; a small part of the outer walls still serves as a fence to the area of the castle, now a field. In the meadows near the monastery of Delapré, was fought one of the bloody battles between Henry VI. and the earl of Warwick, in which the king was defeated with great slaughter. It was garrisoned by the parliament against Charles I. Tradition says, that the wide ditch on the northern side of the town, which was scoured out and widened by them, was originally made for a defence against the Danes, who, however, fixed themselves here, and made many incursions into the neighbourhood. Hunsborough, a military work a mile south of the town, was raised by them. The figure is rather oval than circular, with a single ditch, and double bank, inclosing about an acre of ground, the ditch 12 feet wide, the entrance on the south. It is on a high hill, commanding the country a great way; the form agrees with others incontestably Danish**.

In 1675 almost the whole town was destroyed by fire, but afterwards rebuilt in a handsome manner, for which purpose large collections were made, and the king gave 1000 ton of timber towards the church of All Saints; and to the town, seven years of its chimney money. This was much owing to the generosity of James Compton, earl

* Gent. Mag. 1765, p. 283.

† At Pisford is an ancient entrenchment called Barrow-Dyke; and near the town a tumulus, called Longman's-hill — Morton, p. 548.

‡ Morton's Nat. Hist. of Northamptonshire, p. 503, 504.

§ Bridge's History of Northamptonshire, p. 425.

|| Harleian MS. 1503, fo. 192.

¶ Dugd. Bar. v. i. p. 58.

** Morton, p. 536, 538.

of Northampton, who interested himself warmly in it, though the town had little reason to expect so much, having used his family very ill in the civil wars. The west front of the church of All Saints is adorned with a portico, having a flat roof, supported by 12 Ionic pillars, over which is a balustrade; and in the centre a statue of Charles II. An inscription underneath commemorates his bounty.

The churches of St. Peter, St. Sepulchre, and St. Giles, are of great antiquity, especially the former, which indeed is very deserving of notice, but is so much out of the way, that unless apprized of it a traveller may be many times at Northampton without seeing it. It stands at the end of the west street, opposite the castle, and seems to be a perfect remain of the Saxon building. On going into the church-yard, the body is seen higher than the north aisle, a row of small circular arches appearing on the outside of it worked into the wall, the whole length from east to west. At the west end is a tower, at each corner of which three round pillars joined together in three stories, diminishing as they rise, form a buttress; over the door is a large circular arch, and over that other arches filled with tracery work in the stone, one above another. The inside consists of a nave and two side aisles, each side of the nave having eight circular arches adorned with zig-zag work. Some of the pillars which support the arches are plain, the alternate ones are surrounded with a band about the middle of them. At the west end of the nave is a large circular arch, with several circles of zig-zag over it.

The church of the Holy Sepulchre is on the north side of the town, on the Harborough road, and was probably built by the knights-templars after the model of that at Jerusalem. The body is circular, the roof supported by eight massy pillars; it seems that this was the original building, and that the east and west ends have been added since.

St. Giles's church standing at the east end of the town, has a circular zig-zag arch over the west door.

The cellar of the county hospital was originally a subterraneous chapel*.

On the wall of a house at a wharf called Thaves Wharf, are four figures of men fighting, two and two, carved in the stone; one has a sword, another a knotted club.

A little on the east of the town a medicinal well was found in 1703, which was very serviceable in the stone; it rises at the foot of the hill, in a stratum of clay, with some vitriolic pyritæ inclosed in it, and is a little lighter than the Astrop water†.

In the field on the east of the town, an excellent tobacco-pipe clay has been dug in large quantities; whether it is now exhausted I do not know. It did not lie in one continued stratum, but in separate parcels‡.

A large manufacture of shoes, and another of stockings, have been long carried on here. The inhabitants are numerous, and, unhappily, every freeman, resident or not, and every resident, free or not, has a vote in the election of members of parliament for the town; their numbers and their infamous venality in 1768, will be long remembered and severely felt by some noble families in the neighbourhood.

A few years ago the town was entirely new paved, in a very handsome manner, at an expence of ten thousand pounds.

Mr. Bouverie has a handsome house and park in the meadows on the south of the town, and has made considerable plantations, reaching up to the Queen's Cross.

* Gough's Topography, v. ii. p. 40.

† Morton, p. 279, 284.

‡ Ibid. p. 70.

Six miles off is Castle Ashby, the seat of the ancient family of the Comptons, earls of Northampton. It is a large structure, surrounding a handsome square court, with a beautiful skreen, the work of Inigo Jones, bounding one side. Mr Pennant discovered in a garret, thrown by as lumber, the original portraits of the great John Talbot earl of Shrewsbury (so distinguished in the wars in France in the time of Henry VI.) and of Margaret his wife*.

About five miles to the west of the town is Althorp, an old seat of the Spencers (now earls) built in the shape of an half H. It stands low, and in the approach you go through, and across, those straight avenues of trees, which were once deemed the lines of beauty. The rooms are not large, except the library and gallery, the latter of which is 138 feet by 20. In this is a collection of portraits, hardly perhaps exceeded by any in the kingdom, not only in point of number, but of beauty. The famous beauties of Hampton Court are far short of those which the pencils of Cornelius Johnson, Vandyke, Lely, Kneller, &c. have placed here. A small piece of Henry VIII. by Holbein (in this gallery), a small round portrait of that master by himself (in the picture closet) and a boy blowing a lighted brand, are reckoned of very great value. Here is the head of sir Kenelm Digby, by Cornelius Johnson. A few years ago part of the roof fell in, and did much damage to the house. In one of the rooms is a table for play, which seems to be the original of the E. O. tables.

Not far off is Holdenby-house (a sight of which is caught from the Welford road) built in the reign of Elizabeth by sir Christopher Hatton, descended from an heiress of the ancient family of Holdenby. It was a work worthy of that great man. It was for a time the prison of Charles I. and is now in ruins.

In the road from Northampton to London, on the hill about a mile from the town stands one of the crosses built by Edward I. in memory of his queen, and now in good preservation. She died at Herdby, near Lincoln, on a journey which she was making with him to Scotland; and in every place where her body was rested in its conveyance for interment, he erected a cross. It was repaired in 1713, and again in 1760. It is divided into three stories; the two first are octagonal, the first 14, the second 12 feet high. In every other side of the second, within a nich, is a female figure, crowned, about six feet high, with canopies over their heads, supported by two Gothic pillars, which are surmounted with pinnacles. The upper story is eight feet high, and has only four sides, on each of which is a dial. On the top is a cross. On the western side of the lower story are the arms of Great Britain, with queen Ann's motto, *Semper eadem*.

A little beyond this the road divides; the direct one goes by Stony Stratford, the left by Newport-Pagnell. Taking the latter, pass by Horton, a seat of the late earl of Halifax, since his death bought by sir Robert Gunning. In the church is a fine monument of William lord Parr, uncle to Catherine, the last queen of Henry VIII. and of his lady, a Salisbury, by whom he got this estate. One of their daughters married a Lane, and carried it into that family, from which it passed to the Mountagues.

After passing through the village of Stoke-Goldington, on the right is an excellent house called Goathurst, belonging to Mr. Wright, whose ancestor (a son of sir Nathan, lord keeper in the end of the reign of king William and beginning of queen Anne) purchased it in 1704 of the heirs of the Digbys. Sir Everard Digby became owner of it by marriage with the heiress of Mulsho; his share in the Gunpowder-plot,

and ignominious end, are well known; but he had settled this estate so that it descended to his son sir Kenelm, so justly celebrated for his learning and other qualifications. There are several portraits of the Digbys and others, and two brass busts of Venetia, the wife of sir Kenelm. The father of the present owner removed a village which surrounded it to a little distance. The church was neatly rebuilt under the will of the Mr. Wright, who purchased the estate*. There is a monument in it for the lord keeper, who was buried at his seat at Caldecot, near Atherstone, where a monument remains, but his body was afterwards removed hither.

On the other side the river Ouse, which waters the valley, is Tyringham, the old seat of a very old family of that name, which passed by a daughter, towards the latter end of the last century, to Mr. Backwell, whose descendant now enjoys it. One of the family, who was rector of the place, and a prebendary of Worcester, suffered severely for his attachment to Charles I., and probably lost his life. He and his two nephews were seized by a party of dragoons from Aylesbury, and carried to that place, but in their way were cut and wounded by the soldiers with the most wanton barbarity. Mr. Tyringham's arm was obliged to be taken off, and it is supposed that he died in consequence of it†. At the entrance of Newport a causeway has been thrown up, and a bridge built, in a place which used to be impassable in floods, except by a bridge belonging to a private person, who extorted what he pleased from the distressed traveller. He generally insisted on a crown for a coach or waggon before he would turn the key, and there was no refusal, for the road by Stony-Stratford was not then made. At last the commissioners of the turnpike road roused themselves, and determined to buy it for the use of the public, or to build another. The proprietor sold it with great reluctance. A horse-path is now always open, and a carriage-way when there is a flood.

Newport-Pagnell is so called from its ancient owners the Paganells or Paynells, who became possessed of it in the reign of William II.‡, and had a castle here§, which was demolished by order of the Parliament in 1646. Ralph Paganell founded the priory of Tikford as a cell to the abbey of Marmontier, in France, for monks of the Cluniac order. It paid a pension of 40s. to the abbey of Conches, in Normandy, the reversion of which, after the death of Humphry duke of Gloucester, was settled by Henry VI. on his college of Eton||. The priory was one of those granted by the pope, 20 Henry VIII. to cardinal Wolsey towards the endowment of his colleges at Oxford and Ipswich¶. It lies on the left of the town, and a handsome white house has been built on the site. The present possessor lately buried his wife in the garden, as being consecrated ground.

The town stands on a point of land, one side of which is washed by a stream called the Loufell, or Lovett, running out of Bedfordshire by Fenny-Stratford, and here meeting the Ouse, which runs on the other side in its way to Bedford, Huntingdon, and Lynn Regis, where it falls into the sea.

Here, and in the neighbourhood, great quantities of thread lace are made, and a rich cheese sold on the spot at 18d. a pound, and another sort, something like Cottenham, at 6d.

The church was an impropriation to the priory. In the north aisle of it, in 1619, was found the body of a man, whole and perfect, laid down, or rather leaning down, north and south; all the hollow parts of the body, and of every bone, as well ribs as others, were filled up with solid lead. The skull with the lead in it weighed 30 lb. 6 oz. Some of the larger bones were sold to a plumber**, but the skull is now in the

* Pennant's Journey from Chester, p. 338.

† Magna Brit. v. vi. p. 317.

‡ Dugd. Bar. v. i. p. 431.

§ Leland, v. i. p. 21.

|| Dugd. Mon. v. iii. p. 200.

§ Ibid. v. i. p. 685, 1037.

** Nicholls's Bibl. Topogr. N° 2. p. 156.

library of St. John's college, Cambridge*. By what means this could be accomplished, or for what purpose it was done, is not to be discovered; but similar things have been found in the chancel of Badwell Ash, near Walsingham in the Willows, in Suffolk†, and at Axminster in Devon‡.

An hospital founded by the Someries, about 1280, for three poor men, and three poor women, was re-founded by Queen Anne of Denmark, (queen of James II.) and adds something to the stipend of the vicar, who is master§.

Near the church-yard is another alms-house, founded a few years ago by Mr. Riviss, a linen-draper at Charing-cross, for ten poor widows, and endowed by him in his lifetime with 15l. a year for each of them.

Leaving Newport, there are some beautiful meadows on the right. The country grows light and sandy as we draw near Woburn; this used to make the road very heavy, but it has been something mended. To avoid them in some degree, it is now carried over, or rather through, a hill, the top of which has been cut away to make a passage. From this hill, which is now planted with small firs, is a fine view of Woburn abbey, the park, and plantations, made by the late duke of Bedford. About a mile from hence fuller's earth is dug. In the town is a free-school, founded by Francis, first earl of Bedford, and a charity school for 30 boys and 15 girls, supported by the benevolence of this family.

The late duke almost entirely re-built the seat on the spot where the old one stood, and which was the site of the abbey, though it might have been placed to much greater advantage on the higher ground. Some of the rooms have been finished since his death. The house is a large quadrangle, inclosing a spacious court, and is built of white stone; the principal apartments are towards the town, looking over some pieces of water.

On pulling down part of the abbey in 1744, a corpse was found with the flesh so firm as to bear cutting with a knife, though it must have been buried at least 200 years. Some time after, on pulling down part of one of the walls of the abbey church, a stone coffin was found, which consisted of several loose stones set in the ground, and a very large oblong Purbeck stone was dug up, which had been ornamented with brass; under it were some bones. In sinking a cellar six more stone coffins were found, one of which was very large, being in the inside six feet eight inches long; they all had a place shaped for a head, and all, or most of them, had two or three holes at the bottom, their covers made of several stones. Near them two pots or urns were found, which probably contained the bowels of two of those who were buried there. On a skull belonging to some bones which lay in a stiff blue clay, there was some black cloth, which might be the cowl of one of the monks. Pieces of shoes were also taken up. A large piece of a body had the flesh remaining, which looked white both on the outside and inside, as if lime had penetrated its substance, and it was tough when cut with a knife. Another stone coffin was afterwards dug up, on which was the following inscription||:

EVANGELISTARUM IN DOMINA

* Gough's Topogr. v. i. p. 316.

† Gent. Mag. 1748, p. 214.

‡ Gent. Mag. 1749, p. 153.

§ Arch. v. iv. p. 69.

§ Pennant's Journey from Chester, p. 343.

Entering the court, the stables on the left are made out of the cloisters, the pillars and vaulted roof of which are still seen, the pillars forming the stalls for the horses. This part, with three rooms in the basement story on the north side the house, are all the remains of the ancient building. The apartments are numerous and elegant, many of the ceilings in compartments, richly gilt; but the room called the music room, finished since the duke's death, far surpasses the rest. The wainscot and ceiling are adorned with festoons and other devices, gilt, from a design of sir William Chambers, in the lightest and most elegant taste. The pictures are many, and many of them extremely fine. A vision of our Saviour to Ignatius Loyola, in one of the small rooms; the head of Rembrandt by himself; Joseph interpreting the baker's dream, by the same; the inside of a church, where the effect of the light is most remarkable; a landscape of Claude's in the drawing-room, and another in the dressing-room, are such as must strike every one's attention. The picture gallery, 100 feet long by 16 wide, is filled with a great number of portraits, mostly of the family. One of the mother of the first countess, over a door at the farther end, is a most beautiful one.

This abbey was founded by Hugh de Bolebec, in 1145, for monks of the Cistercian order. The last abbot, refusing to surrender it to Henry VIII. was hanged on an oak, yet standing in the park, near the bridge, and from thence called the Abbot's Oak. In 1 Ed. VI. the abbey was granted to lord Russell, descended of a very ancient family in Dorsetshire, and advanced to that dignity by Henry VIII. by whom he had been much distinguished, and honoured with great employments. The park is ten miles round, contains more than 3000 acres, and is full of noble woods of venerable oaks. From a hill at the north end is a most extensive prospect. There is a plantation of evergreens, of 200 acres, made by the late duke out of a rabbit-warren, and at the end of it is the lower water.

To the activity and indefatigable zeal of Francis and William, earls of Bedford, in the last century, it is owing that the very extensive tract called the Bedford Level, lying on the borders of the several counties of Norfolk, Suffolk, Cambridge, Lincoln, Northampton, and Huntingdon, containing not less than 300,000 acres, then almost entirely useless, has been drained and brought into a state of bearing the most plentiful crops of corn. This was a noble undertaking, highly beneficial to the public, and only to be carried on by those of equal perseverance and wealth. The confusions of the civil war nearly ruined all that had been done before; but the spirited endeavours of William, earl of Bedford, restored and completed what his ancestor begun. The repairs are, however, necessarily attended with great expence, and all their precautions cannot guard against sudden and violent floods. The generosity of the late duke was never more clearly shewn than on one of those occasions, which happened a few years before his death; it will be long remembered with gratitude by his tenants.

About a mile from Dunstable, is a large round area of nine acres, called Maiden-Bower, or Madning-Boure, surrounded with a ditch and pretty high rampire, which Dr. Stukeley insists is a British work*, though the Roman road, and the number of Roman coins found in it, seem to give it to that people. In 1770, and since, many copper coins of Antoninus and Constantine, with many small ornaments of bridles and armour, were found in a down near Dunstable, digging for gravel. This Maiden-Bower consists of a vallum, nearly circular, thrown up on a level plain. The inner banks are

* Itin. vol. i. p. 115.

from eight to fourteen feet high*. Totternho castle, west of this, on the point of a high hill, is seen far off. There are several barrows or tumuli on the hills here; five called the five knolls are together on a high prominence. Beneath this camp, on the north side of the hill, is a quarry of stone, white as chalk, which is so soft as to be easily cut, and is got out in large blocks, but hardens on being exposed to the air. Lord Grimston uses it in building his new house at Gorhambury.

A little to the left, in the bottom, is Eaton Bray, which was in early times the residence of my ancestors. Part of what was the mansion-house in the time of Henry VIII. remains. It is now the property of Mr. Beckford.

Dunstable was the station mentioned by Antoninus under the name of Magioninium, Magiovinium, and Magintum†, and stands on the intersection of the Watling-Street, and the Iknild-Street. At this intersection stood one of the crosses erected by Edward I. as mentioned at Northampton, which has been for some time destroyed.

This town is said to have been built by Henry I. to repress the insolence of a gang of daring robbers, who infested the neighbourhood, then overgrown with wood‡, and that it had its name from one of the chiefs; but it is more probable that it is named from the Saxon Dun, a hill, or the old Gaulish or British Dunum, the situation being hilly and mountainous§. Certain, however, it is that that king granted extraordinary privileges to this place, equal in some respects to those of London, the inhabitants not being liable to be called out of their own court, the king's justices coming specially to Dunstable, and having a jury of the place. But the exercise of this jurisdiction was sometimes attended with danger, when the power of the barons was too great for the law; in 1224, whilst the judges were thus employed here, Fulk de Breant, who had been fined by them for various outrages and injuries which he had done to his neighbours, sent his brother from Bedford castle to seize them; two of them were so fortunate as to escape, but the third was taken and carried to Bedford, where he was very ill-treated||.

It has been often observed that the man who has never known sickness, has never known the value of health; it may be said in like manner that a people who have never seen the course of justice interrupted, or force successfully opposed to the execution of the law, do not know half the value of being protected by it. History, in describing the miseries attendant on such violence, holds up a picture to our view, the contemplation of which, contrasted with our present situation, ought to inspire us with the highest veneration for our ancestors, who secured us such a system of equal laws, and with the most ardent desire to preserve them, and the peaceable execution of them. Henry also built himself a house here, called Kingsbury, the site of which contained nine acres, and here it probably was that the play of St. Catherine was performed, as mentioned by Mr. Warton in his history of English poetry. He kept his Christmas here in 1123, with his whole court, and received at the same time the embassy from the earl of Anjou¶. The name of the house is still retained, but from the habitation of a king, it is converted into that of a common farmer. Henry built the church and the priory, (the prior of which sat with the judges when they came) and gave it much of his land, but reserved the house for his own use; this, however, was afterwards given to them by king John.

* Nichols's Topogr. N° 8, p. 201, 202.

† Camd. v. i. p. 316.

‡ Dugd. Mon. v. ii. p. 132.

§ Camd. v. i. p. 316.

|| Rapin, v. i. p. 301.

¶ Saxon Chron. sub hoc anno.

Tournaments were often held here, and the kings occasionally honoured the prior with visits, which he would readily have excused. He also had some troublesome neighbours in the friars' preachers, who had a small house in this place, and by their industry in preaching set an example which the monks did not like to follow. By the Annals of Dunstable it appears that these religious were engaged in frequent law-suits with their neighbours, and they have left some memorandums of presents usefully bestowed on such occasions on persons who were about the judges, and in treating the juries. They had lands in the Peak in Derbyshire, and had a grange at Bradburn there. The people of Dunstable were much in their power, yet often had spirit enough to resist their usurpations, and once being grievously oppressed were about to have deserted the place, and built new habitations out of the prior's jurisdiction.

At this house Cranmer, archbishop of Canterbury, Gardiner, bishop of Winchester, and the bishops of London, Bath and Lincoln, sat to enquire into the legality of the marriage of Henry VIII. with Catharine of Arragon, who had been first married to his brother; and she, who then resided at Ampthill, in this neighbourhood, refusing to appear, the marriage was declared null, in conformity with the opinions of the various universities, divines and canonists, who had been consulted.

On the dissolution, the revenues of the priory were valued at 344*l.* 13*s.* 2*d.**. Henry intended to have made this a bishop's see, and had fixed on an endowment of 1140*l.* 0*s.* 5*d.* a year, but his wants getting the better of his piety, his estates were applied to other uses, and this bishopric with some other intended ones, came to nothing†.

There was here an hospital for lepers, dedicated to St. Mary Magdalene.

Little remains of this priory, except part of the west end of the church, which is now used as the parish church. A stone coffin serves as a groundsl to the west door. There is a round arch over the principal door, which has been much ornamented, but is a good deal defaced, though part of a chain encompassing it is still seen, perhaps in allusion to St. Peter ad Vincula, the church being dedicated to him. In it are several neat monuments for the families of Marshe and Chew, in whom a charitable disposition seems to have been hereditary, but shines most conspicuously in Mrs. Jane Cart, one of them. She, together with Mrs. Ashton and Mr. Aynscomb, founded a school (which is at the entrance of the town) for the education, clothing and apprenticing 40 boys, and 15 girls, and settled on it 150*l.* *per annum*, pursuant to a wish expressed by Mr. Chew, their ancestor, before his death. Adjoining thereto Mrs. Cart, in 1723, built an almshouse for six poor persons, and left a fund for distributing bread every Sunday; and other charities in this place, besides giving the surplus of a considerable estate to be divided amongst poor clergymen and their families. Mrs. Ashton built an almshouse in the west-street for six widows, who receive about 8*l.* a year a piece, and firing. Mrs. Blandina Marshe built a neat lodge, as she calls it, for six poor gentlewomen near the church-yard, and gave them 12*l.* a year each, to which the interest of 100*l.* has been since added by another lady. There is also a monument for Marshe Dickenson, esq. late lord mayor of London. Mention is made of a woman here who had 19 children at five births; viz. three times three, and twice five.

Dunstable is remarkable for a neat manufacture of straw, which is stained of various colours, and made into boxes, hats, toys, &c. On the downs are taken great quantities of larks. It has been said that there are no wells here, and that the inhabitants are supplied by rain-water and the ponds in the town, but it is not true; there are wells,

* Dugd. Mon. v. i. p. 1038.

† Willis's Cath. v. iii. p. 402.

though

though deep. The country hereabouts is chiefly open, and produces great quantities of corn. The chalk-hills are part of that range which runs across the kingdom here from east to west, as another does from the Thames through Kent, Sussex, and Surrey, into Hants, furnishing a most valuable manure, the want of which in the northern parts is in some measure supplied by a limestone.

Market-street, according to Stukeley, is the *Forum Dianæ* of Richard of Cirencester*. The counties of Bedford and Hertford meet at this place; the left hand row of houses (in going to London) being in Herts, in the parish of Cadendone; the right in Bedford, in the parish of Studham. Here is a small neat chapel, and a school endowed with about 100l. a year by Mr. Coppin (predecessor of the present owner) whose seat, called Market Cell, is just by, and was formerly a nunnery, built by Geoffry, one of the abbots of St. Alban's.

This place was first inhabited by one Roger, a hermit, who returning from the Holy Land was conducted to it by three angels, and here passed the rest of his days in great sanctity, but not without great disturbance from the devil, who used to play many pranks with him; he once set his cowl on fire whilst he was at prayers, but the good man finished his devotions before he would extinguish the flame. One *Christiana*, a pious woman, was so much captivated with his fame, that she determined to live with him; she went, and he found a little corner of his cell in which he locked her up. She lived here four years, but not in a very comfortable manner, as she had only a stone to sit on, and her master never suffered her to stir out, nor scarce to speak, lest any of those who came to visit him, should be scandalized; for though in truth he never once saw her face, and only talked to her of religious matters, they might have thought differently. At length he died, and *Christiana* succeeded to the whole cell, and to all his sanctity†. Galfred, an abbot of St. Alban's, struck with the report of her piety, built her a house, and endowed it for the maintenance of her and some other holy sisters, though the convent murmured at this application of their revenues. However, he seems to have borrowed the ground on which he built it of his neighbours, as the dean and chapter of St. Paul's, in 1145, confirmed the same to *Christiana* and her successors, at a rent of three shillings.

Humfrey Boucher, base son to the late lord Berners, (says Leland) did much cost in translating of the priory into a manor place; but he left it nothing ended‡.

Passing through Redburn, a small town full of inns for the reception of the numerous waggons which frequent this road, come to St. Alban's, rich in antiquities, where, after the lapse of so many ages, there still remains very much of unquestionable antiquity to gratify the researches of the curious antiquarian, and where he is not under a necessity of resorting to conjectures, often unsatisfactory to himself, oftener to his readers.

This town rose out of the ruins of Old Verulam, originally a British, afterwards a Roman station. Considerable fragments of the Roman walls still remain, although great quantities have been taken away at various times for various purposes; sometimes to assist in erecting other buildings, sometimes merely to repair the roads. Here Cæsar obtained a victory over Cassibelan, and this was the scene of Boadicea's victory and cruelty, when she massacred 70,000 Romans and Britons who adhered to them.

About the beginning of this century, some human bones of an extraordinary size were found near an urn, inscribed *Marcus Antoninus*, in the place of the Roman camp

* Account of Richard of Cirencester, p. 41, 43.

† Dug Mon. v. i p. 350.

‡ Itin. vol. i. p. 94.

near this town. They were measured by Mr. Cheselden, the celebrated surgeon, who observed that if all the parts bore a due proportion, the man must have been eight feet high*.

The Roman bricks are of two sorts; the red are of a fine colour and close texture, the others have a red case over a black, vitrified substance. It has been conjectured that the former were probably baked in the sun, the latter burnt in the fire, but I doubt much if the sun ever gives heat enough to answer the purpose. The black part resists a file, and will bear a polish†.

In the walls which went nearly round the old city the Roman bricks are interlayed in separate courses, between courses of flints. The quantity of mortar between the bricks is nearly equal to the thickness of the bricks themselves. Four layers are discernable, the lowest has four bricks, the next three, and the two uppermost two each. The distances between the courses of bricks, which are filled up with flints and mortar, are two feet eight inches. The bricks are of unequal thickness, from three inches to an inch and quarter; their lengths are also various, from eighteen to twelve inches. The Romans had no exact moulds for their bricks, there being a great difference in the size of those which have been found in several parts of this kingdom‡.

The abbey church is seen on an eminence, from which-ever side you approach the town. This noble and venerable remain of ancient piety and religious magnificence was happily preserved at the dissolution, being purchased by the inhabitants of the town for 400*l*. It has been used by them as a church ever since, and has twice supplied a place for the courts of law, when the judges adjourned from Westminster-hall on account of the plague; but it had a narrow escape, a few years ago, from falling a sacrifice to avarice and mean spiritedness. The repairs which had been made at different times were found expensive, and a scheme was formed to pull it down and build a smaller church.

This abbey, which was one of the mitred ones, and in point of rank and wealth was one of the greatest in England, (and was thought not unworthy the acceptance of Cardinal Wolsey after he had obtained the archbishoprick of York), was founded by Offa, king of the Mercians, in 793, on the spot where the bones of St. Alban, who suffered martyrdom in 293, were discovered. The materials of the walls of Old Verulam have been employed in building the steeple, and a considerable part of the church.

In the most eastern part stood the shrine of St. Alban, which was adorned in the richest manner. The stone screen at the communion-table is a very light and elegant piece of work, set up by John de Whethamstead, who was chosen abbot in 1434; he took for his arms three ears of wheat, in allusion to the name of the place from whence he was called, and they are carved in divers places in this screen. The centre is modern work, a crucifix, which originally stood there, being removed. The brasses of the grave-stones are all either broken or destroyed, except those of one of the abbots in the choir, which are perfect, the stone having been turned upside down to preserve them from the ravages of the parliament army, by which the others suffered so much. About 70 years ago the stairs were discovered which lead to the vault where the body of Humphry, duke of Gloucester, uncle to Henry VI., was found in a leaden coffin, preserved entire by a pickle. That of his brother, the duke of Exeter, was found at St. Edmond's-

* Phil. Trans. 1711, p. 436.

† Arch. v. ii. p. 187.

‡ Ibid. vol. ii. p. 184, 185.

Bury, in Suffolk, a few years ago, preserved in the same manner, but was most shamefully mangled by the workmen and a surgeon there.

The west end of the choir has a noble piece of Gothic workmanship for the ornament of the high altar. In the middle of the centre aisle is a remarkable reverberation of sound from the roof, which is painted throughout with devices and the arms of the benefactors, the colours of which, though certainly of some ages standing, are remarkably fresh. The arms of the principal contributors to the repair in the last century, after the havoc made in the civil wars, are in the choir.

At the east end is a place which has been used as a school, and is part of the church, but the communication with the choir is cut off by a wall. Near the west end of the church is the old gateway of the abbey, now used as a prison.

Between the abbey and Old Verulam was a large deep pool, now a meadow, which belonged to the castle of Kingsbury, situate at the west end of the town, where the king and his nobility used often to divert themselves with sailing in large vessels, the anchors and other tackle of which have been found here. Upon those occasions they resorted to the abbey, which was attended with so much expence to the monks, that they purchased the pool of king Edgar, and drained it.

On the dissolution the revenues were valued at about 2500*l*. Soon after, king Edward VI. gave the town a charter of incorporation, and granted them the patronage of this church.

The church of St. Michael was built by the Saxons in the tenth century, with the same sort of tiles as were used by the Romans, and has probably many Roman tiles worked up in it, taken from the neighbouring walls of Verulam; but it is conjectured that the tiles which are used here and in the abbey church are not all Roman, the nature of the several parts of the work, and the hardness of the Roman tiles, rendering it necessary to make tiles of different forms and dimensions, for such parts as were required to be neat and exact. And it appears on near inspection, that most of the tiles were moulded on purpose, particularly for the newells of the stairs, and the small round pillars, which were all made in circular moulds*. In this church is a monument for sir Francis Bacon, with a fine figure of him in white marble, sitting in a chair.

In the meadows on the right (going to London) are some remains of the nunnery of Sopwell, founded about 1140, by the same abbot who founded that at Market-street, as mentioned before. The nuns were governed by the rule of St. Bennett, and were to keep silence in the church, the refectory, and the dormitory. A hard task this! Henry VIII. kindly set their tongues at liberty, and granted the building to sir Richard a Leigh, by one of whose daughters it passed to the Sadlers; a daughter of that family carried it to Saunders, who in the last century sold it to sir Harbottle Grimston, to whose descendant the lord viscount Grimston, it now belongs. There was once a mansion house now nearly pulled down, which has not been inhabited since the time of the Sadlers. A considerable manor belongs to it. It is said that Henry VIII. was married to Anna Boleyn at this place.

In this town was one of the crosses set up by Edward I., but it is now destroyed.

Earl Spencer has a house in the town, which was the old duchess of Marlborough's, and the interest of the borough is divided between this family and that of lord Grimston, whose seat, called Gorhambury, the residence of the great sir Francis Bacon, is

at a small distance. The present owner is building a magnificent house in the room of the old one, not on the same spot.

The representatives of the borough have lately made the inhabitants a very welcome present, which the dry summers we have had has rendered particularly acceptable. They have sunk two wells for public use, which are 30 or 40 yards deep, but the contrivance for winding up the buckets is such, that it is done with great ease. The expence was about 200*l*.

This place has been the scene of many notable actions. Here the earl of Lancaster, and others of the nobility staid, expecting an answer to their message to that weak, misguided prince, Edward II., requiring him to banish the Despensers, to whose councils the oppressions, under which the kingdom groaned, were attributed. The king returned a haughty answer, but was soon afterwards obliged to comply.

Two bloody battles between the houses of York and Lancaster were fought here; the first in 1455, when the duke of York, assisted by the earl of Warwick, defeated Henry, and took him prisoner; the other in 1461, on Bernard's-heath, when the queen, aided by the northern barons, defeated the earl and retook the king, but stained the victory by the cruelty she exercised on the prisoners.

The reflections arising from the fate of the many gallant men who lost their lives in the intestine feuds of those days, are truly melancholy. The most ancient and splendid houses were ruined, the kingdom ravaged, and the people equally oppressed which ever side prevailed. Agriculture was neglected, of course a scarcity ensued, and that produced pestilential diseases, which completed the misery. Nor were these the consequences of that noble struggle for liberty which the barons had heretofore made, and when the present inconveniences were compensated by the subsequent advantages; the horrors of this war was occasioned by a weak woman attempting to govern on one side, and ambitious nobles struggling for power on the other. The conduct of most of the leaders shews that they acted from that motive, or from a still worse.

How happy are we in these days, did we but know our own happiness, when the noise of war is only heard from a distance, and loses its terror in its passage cross the ocean; when the aristocratic tyranny of the noble is no more, and when the meanest peasant enjoys his little property in safety, secure in the protection of equal laws! May we prize this situation as we ought to do! may we never feel the miseries of civil dissensions; and may no enthusiast, profaning the benevolent religion he impiously pretends to support, succeed in an attempt to draw that sharpest of all swords which superstition has happily been so long obliged to carry under his cloak, that it has rusted in the scabbard!

Being now come almost within sight of London, I take my leave of the reader, satisfied if my endeavours to amuse him have not been altogether fruitless.

ITER.

	Miles.		Miles.
To Uxbridge	15	To Chatsworth	12
Amerham	11	Tidswell	10
Aylesbury	14	Castleton	4
Buckingham	17	Tidswell	4
Astrop	14	Sheffield	16
		Banbury	

	Miles.		Miles.
Banbury - - - - -	5	Barnsley - - - - -	13
Edgehill - - - - -	7	Wakefield - - - - -	10
Warwick - - - - -	16	Leeds - - - - -	8
Coventry - - - - -	10	Harewood - - - - -	8
Hinckley - - - - -	13	Boroughbridge Knareborough Ripley	26
Leicester - - - - -	14	Rippon - - - - -	7
Loughborough - - - - -	11	Studley and Masham - - - - -	20
Derby - - - - -	17	Hackfall - - - - -	3
Kedleston and Matlock - - - - -	18	Middleham - - - - -	12
Birchover and back to Matlock	12	Aysgarth Askrigg - - - - -	14
Dovedale and Ashbourn - - - - -	14	Kettlewell - - - - -	21
Dovedale to Ecton - - - - -	8	Malham and Skipton - - - - -	22
Ashbourn - - - - -	10	Otley - - - - -	15
Bakewell and Monfall - - - - -	11	Leeds - - - - -	10
Matlock - - - - -	11	Wakefield - - - - -	8
Matlock - - - - -	14	Barnsley - - - - -	10
Hardwick - - - - -	10	Wentworth - - - - -	7
Matlock - - - - -	10	Nottingham - - - - -	14
Rotherham - - - - -	5	Loughborough - - - - -	14
Workop - - - - -	17	Leicester - - - - -	10
Wellbeck - - - - -	4	Harborough - - - - -	16
Creswell Cragg - - - - -	3	Northampton - - - - -	17
Bolsover - - - - -	6	Althorp - - - - -	5
Workop to Mansfield - - - - -	12	Newport Pagnell - - - - -	15
Or Workop by Clumber and Thores-		Woburn - - - - -	9
by to Palethorp - - - - -	6	Dunstable - - - - -	9
Ollerton - - - - -	3	St. Alban's - - - - -	13
Rufford - - - - -	2	Barnet - - - - -	10
		London - - - - -	11

SUBTERRANEAN CASCADE.

A singular natural Curiosity, recently discovered in Derbyshire, is thus described by an ingenious Traveller.

"THE only remaining object at Castleton was the great *Speedwell Level*, lying to the south of the road called the *Winnets*, at the distance of a mile from the town. Being provided with lights and a guide, who expects five shillings for his trouble, we descended a flight of stone stairs, about one hundred feet below the surface of the ground, and found ourselves in a subterranean passage, seven feet high, and six feet wide, through which flowed a stream of water. Here was a boat ready for our reception, formerly used, when the mine was worked, for the purpose of bringing out the ore. As we proceeded slowly along the current, impelled by our guide, who gave motion to the boat by pushing against some pegs driven into the wall for that purpose, we began to contemplate this great example of man's labour, and at the same time to lament, that it had been exerted in vain. This level, it seems, was undertaken by a company of

of speculators, about five and twenty years ago, who drove it into the heart of the mountain, 3750 feet, at an expence of 14,000l. by the ceaseless labour of six men and three boys, who were employed upon it 11 whole years, at a contract of five guineas per yard. The veins, however, which the level intersected, were not sufficiently rich to answer the expence of pursuing them after they were found; therefore, having followed their speculation for ten years, they were obliged to relinquish it, and content themselves with letting the level to a man for 10l. *per ann.* who took it in order to gratify strangers with a sight of this subterraneous wonder. Whilst employed in putting questions to our conductor on the subject before us, our attention was excited by a distant murmur, which gradually increased upon the ear, and at length swelled into a stunning noise, exceeding the loudest thunder, and conveying the idea of a stupendous river, throwing itself headlong into an unfathomable abyfs. Nor had fancy painted an unreal picture, for on reaching the half-way point, a scene was unfolded to us tremendous in the extreme. Here the level burst suddenly upon a gulph, whose roof and bottom were entirely invisible, a sky rocket having been sent up towards the former, above 600 feet, without rendering it apparent; and the latter having been plummed with a line 400 feet, and no bottom discovered. A foaming torrent, roaring from the dark recesses, high in the heart of the mountain, over our heads to the right, and discharging itself into this bottomless cauldron, whose waters commenced at 90 feet below us, produced the noise we had heard; a noise which was so powerfully increased on this near approach to it, as entirely to overwhelm the mind for a short time, and awaken that unaccountable feeling which creates desperate courage out of excessive fear, and almost tempts the spectator to plunge himself into the danger, whose presence he so much dreads. The prodigious depth of this abyfs may be conceived from the circumstance of its having swallowed up the rubbish which a level, 1800 feet long, of the dimensions above given, produced; as well as sixteen tons of the same rubbish cast into it every day for three or four years, without any sensible lessening of its depth, or apparent contraction of its size. Indeed many facts concur to prove, that it is connected with the Castleton cave; and naturalists are now of opinion, that the whole country from hence to Elden-hole, exhibits a series of caverns, extensive and profound, uniting with each other, and thus becoming joint partakers of whatever either of them may receive. A conveyance apparently perilous, but perfectly secure, is formed over the chasm we have described, by a strong wooden frame-work, through which the water passes. Beyond this the level continues about 2000 feet farther; but as the effect of a second approach to the abyfs (which must be again taken in returning) is much lessened by the prior visit, and as nothing occurs worth observation in the remaining half, we found we had extended our voyage to no purpose, to the termination of this last wonder of the Peak. *Warner's Tour through the Northern Counties of England, and the Borders of Scotland, 2 vols. 8vo. L. 180.*

AN ESSAY ON THE ORYCTOGRAPHY OF DERBYSHIRE, A PROVINCE OF ENGLAND, BY THE CELEBRATED MINERALOGIST, M. FERBER. TRANSLATED FROM THE GERMAN.

Preface of M. Ferber.

MY chief object in publishing this work is to present to the public a series of mineralogical observations, which I have made on one of the most interesting counties of England.

My readers will, perhaps, censure me for not having quoted a great number of English authors, who have written before me on the natural history of their country, and for not having availed myself of several memoirs contained in the Philosophical Transactions, which relate to the subject on which I treat; but all these works, which I had overlooked at London before I undertook the journey to Derbyshire, afforded me but feeble assistance, and appeared in general of such little importance, that I thought it would be rendering a service to naturalists, only to present to them what I had myself beheld and examined.

I lie under great obligations to Mr. Whitehurst, watch maker, at Derby, to whom Mr. Franklin was so good as to address me. This ingenious man, who, by an unexampled assiduity, has obtained the most accurate physical knowledge of his county, not to mention the talents he possesses as a mathematician, was of the greatest service to me. It is to his advice and instruction that I am indebted for a great number of facts which probably would have escaped me, if he had not himself taken the trouble of directing my observations.

He also introduced me to Mr. Burdett*, a learned geographer, from whom I received the most exact ideas relative to the position of the places I intended to visit, and every information I could wish concerning the natural geography of Derbyshire.

I frankly confess, that without the assistance of these two persons, I should frequently have been at a loss to account for a great number of phenomena which were new to me. I was not aware, till then, that homogeneous mountains, and all the stratified mountains which I had examined, the internal structure of which I was perfectly acquainted with from the inspection of the mines, did not afford any example similar to what I, for the first time, saw in Derbyshire.

The great diversity of the beds, and their disposition often capricious, which I had not observed in any country, very frequently perplexed me, and I am convinced that the most skilful mineralogists will experience the same sensations.

The surface of Derbyshire is not less affected by this singular organization of the soil; the Peak, the most elevated part of this county, affords some picturesque views of great beauty; many authors have spoken of them in terms of admiration; and well executed engravings have been given by several English artists.

List of the principal Works which treat of the Natural History of England.

THE Natural History of Lancashire, Cheshire, and the Peak of Derbyshire, by Charles Leigh. Oxford, 1700, folio.

* Among other excellent maps, Mr. Burdett has published a map of Derbyshire, entitled, "Survey of Derbyshire," 3 sheets, 1762—67.

New Description of England and Wales, with the adjacent Islands, &c. by Hemann Moll, folio, plates. London, 1735.

A Tour through Great Britain, by a Gentleman, 5th edition, 4 vols. London, 1753, 8vo.

Geographia Magnæ Britanniae, or correct Maps of all the Counties in England, Scotland, and Wales; and of the several Islands. London, 1748, 8vo.

A View of England, Scotland, and Wales, &c. London, 1769, 8vo.

A Description of England and Wales. London, 1769, 8vo.

England illustrated, or a Compendium of the Natural History, Geography, &c. of England and Wales. London, 1764, 4to.

England Displayed, by a Society of Gentlemen, revised by P. Ruffel, Esq. folio, 1769.

John Webster, *Metallographia Anglica*, or an History of Metals, 4to. London, 1676.

Sir John Pettus; *Fodinae Regales*, or the History, Laws, and Places, and the chief Mines and Mineral Works in England, Wales, and Ireland. London, 1670, plates.

An Essay towards a Natural History of Cumberland and Westmoreland, by Thomas Robinson. London, 1709, 8vo.

The Natural History of Cornwall, by W. Borlase, folio. Oxford, 1758.

The Natural History of Oxfordshire, by Robert Plot. Oxford, 1677, folio.

The Natural History of Staffordshire, by Robert Plot. Oxford, 1679, folio.

The Natural History of Northamptonshire, by Thomas Morton, 1752, folio.

The Natural History and Antiquities of Northumberland, and of so much of the county of Durham as lies between the Tyne and the Tweed, by John Wallis. London, 1760, 2 vols. 4to.

An Inquiry into the original State and Formation of the Earth, &c. by John Whitehurst. London, 1778.

ESSAY ON THE ORYCTOGRAPHY OF DERBYSHIRE.

Natural Geography of the Country.

The surface of England is, in a great measure, composed of various beds of earth and stones, which rise in hills of very gentle acclivity, and every where cover the primitive mountains. There are very few summits of granite or schistus breaking through this natural crust of the earth, particularly in England, properly so called.

The highest mountains of primitive formation are seen in the northern parts of Scotland; but they will bear no comparison with the lofty Alps of Switzerland.

Every thing seems to indicate that the level country surrounding these mountains, owes its origin to beds of earth deposited by the waters which formerly covered its surface; the marine substances, discovered within these beds, clearly prove that the liquid, capable of depositing such considerable bodies, can only have been the ocean itself.

Now if it were possible to lift up at once the various beds of which the level country is composed, in order to discover the primitive mountains on which it rests, we should soon behold the greatest part of England inundated by the sea, since the primitive mountains are in fact below its level; this country would then appear in its primitive state, and the works in which nature has employed ages, would in a moment be annihilated.

Let us, in other respects, account for the formation of secondary mountains in the manner which best suits us, or date their existence from the creation of the world; let

us argue whether their various beds owe their existence to the insensible decrease of the sea, or to successive depositions; we shall always be compelled to acknowledge, that, wherever we find a vast extent of land disposed in beds, it has been effected by the water which formerly covered the surface. Transient and local inundations may wash away portions of mountains, and convey them into the vallies; but such an operation will never give rise to beds of sufficient extent to form the surface of a whole country. The marine substances, which are almost always found in these beds, present no difficulty to me; on the contrary, their presence and still more their position serve to strengthen my opinion.

According to our idea of the precipitation of earthly particles contained in any liquid, supposing the liquid always in a state of perfect repose, beds produced by this means should assume a position perfectly horizontal, even when the foundation or the primitive mountains, upon which these particles are deposited, are of an inclined and rugged surface; the beds will only differ in bulk*.

In fact we see many stratified mountains, of which the various beds are perfectly horizontal; they commonly appear under the form of hills of little height, with rounded summits, and of tolerable extent: of this description are the mountains in great part of Germany, Brabant, Flanders†, and those on the coast of France opposite to England‡: in the latter country, the mountains of Staffordshire§, Oxfordshire||, Yorkshire¶,

* Nothing better explains this phenomenon than the operation of chemistry called washing; the vessel used for this purpose may gradually swell out, or terminate like a cone; the earthly particles will always be precipitated in equal beds, be the liquid in ever so small a degree of rest.

† All the mountains I observed in my journey from Holland to France, through Brabant and Flanders, are merely hills, such as I have described above. The environs of Brussels appear hilly; but these heights are only calcareous hills, or heaps of sand, which the waters have deposited in beds. Near Valenciennes are considerable beds of pit-coal, resting on a black argillaceous schistus. In the country of Namur, the same substances are observed; a bog iron-ore in beds is also worked there. In the environs of Paris the hills are composed of calcareous stone, free-stone, or gypsum.

‡ From Paris to Amiens, I met nothing but hills of sand, and an argil of a bright yellow: beyond Amiens, near Flixcourt, and thence to Calais, in the defiles between the hills, underneath the argil, which is about four feet thick, there is observed a calcareous earth, of a greyish colour and very friable, in beds nearly horizontal. Silix, in pieces of a kidney form, is found in great quantity in this earth; their position is likewise nearly horizontal; but a circumstance that clearly proves this arrangement to be only owing to water, is that the largest pieces of silix, and consequently the heaviest, are found in the lower beds, and the lesser in the upper. Most of them are round, some of an oval form; they have all a whitish crust, which is another proof that they had not their origin in the place where they are actually found. It is, however, a fact, that, at a very great depth below this friable earth, a calcareous stone is often found, compact, of tolerable hardness, and frequently chalk, full of silix in kidney-form pieces, which, according to every appearance, have had their origin in the chalk itself. Having crossed the channel, on the whole coast of England, and from Dover to London, I observed the same organization in the beds.

§ Staffordshire is remarkable for considerable beds, which are either calcareous or argillaceous; they are full of petrifications, among which the *entomolithus paradoxus*, which is found near Dudley, is worthy of observation. This county also possesses valuable coal mines. The copper mines of Ecton belong to the duke of Devonshire. At Utchester, or Uttoxeter, there are forges which deserve attention.

|| In Oxfordshire the vegetable earth, which is very argillaceous, rests on a bed of calcareous earth, of a grey or white colour, which contains a great quantity of silix in kidney-form pieces, disposed in horizontal beds. In proportion to the depth, this earth becomes more solid, and is insensibly changed into white chalk: besides petrified shells, which are here found in great number, I have observed prickles of the sea hedge-hog, and pieces of the skull of this worm. The chalk mountains of Gravesend, in the county of Kent, have the same conformation with respect to their beds as those of Oxfordshire; but to the present time we are unacquainted with the substance serving them for base.

¶ The metallic veins of Yorkshire, which are rich in lead and copper, are met with in calcareous stone, black argillaceous schistus, or in free-stone, (*greet*) which seems in this part to be composed of small grains of quartz; the veins running through free-stone are the richest.

the duchies of Cumberland, and Northumberland*, constantly present the same form.

But if, in many stratified mountains, we find the beds to have an inclined or oblique position, if we observe ruptures in the different banks, or considerable derangements in the interior of these mountains, we must naturally attribute it to posterior catastrophes, among which must be reckoned the gaps or clefts to which the beds, left uncovered by the retreat of the waters, and drying up, were exposed; earthquakes, partial inundations, changes in the course of rivers, which, hollowing out new channels in the lower beds, naturally occasioned the upper ones to sink in.

In Derbyshire the position of the beds is seldom horizontal; they nearly all lose themselves obliquely, and scarcely ever preserve the same direction. There are some parts where a portion of the beds has preserved its original position, while the other part is sunk in the valley. The beds which remain firm, and which appear to have been separated by a violent convulsion, are not unlike steep rocks; so that the elevated part of Derbyshire, which is called the Peak, may appear to an observer of little skill, rather as a country of granitic mountains, than a country of secondary formation. Notwithstanding, upon a closer examination of the beds which compose these mountains, we shall easily discover that their primitive position was horizontal, and that it is to posterior derangements alone that they owe their present figure.

From the city of Derby northwards, towards Lancashire and Yorkshire, the land gradually rises, and forms the upper part of the country, called the Peak†, where the winters are longer and more severe than in the plain. Following these apparent mountains on the Peak, we may easily perceive that they anciently formed a continual chain, which has since been broken off in several places; this observation will become more evident on descending into the ravines, where we find all the beds uncovered, and we shall be struck with the perfect analogy between the beds which are sunk down, and those which are elevated. The Derwent, one of the most rapid rivers of England, together with the sea, has most probably contributed to the revolutions which this country has anciently undergone, and of which history does not afford the slightest trace. We are therefore compelled to have recourse to hypotheses, which might be formed on this subject, the more so as the present state of the country will afford sufficient to satisfy the curiosity of the observer.

The superior beds, in nearly the whole of England, are calcareous, and this substance is found under different modifications; it is found in the form of earth or stone; its variations are infinite, both in respect of colour and size, and the manner in which it is found blended with other substances.

In order to form a clear and accurate idea of the beds of Derbyshire, it is necessary to divide them into two classes, a division which nature herself seems to have established.

* In the duchies of Cumberland and Northumberland, the hills are formed by beds of free-stone, black schistus, and lime-stone, which is also in this part the deepest bed. The copper mines of Cumberland are remarkable for native dendritical copper, which is sometimes found. This country also possesses iron mines; the mineral is found under the form of argillaceous ore.

† The Peak is considered by the people of the country as a miraculous object, and many authors have spoken of seven wonders belonging to this mountain; the celebrated Hobbes has described them in the following verse:

Ædes, mons, Barathrum, binus fons, antraque bina.

A very accurate description of the Peak may be found in the following work; *a Tour through Great Britain*, vol. iii. p. 98, &c.

The first class comprehends the beds which are common to the whole country, and which might be called *ancient* or *universal beds*: they are found every where in the same order, with the exception of some of the superior beds, which have undergone a slight alteration.

The second class comprehends the accidental beds, that is to say, the beds which are always found above the ancient beds, and which are consequently of posterior formation: they differ in nearly all the provinces. The ancient beds are found in the following order:

1. Freestone* (*greet* or *grit*). Its thickness is subject to great variation. It is commonly white or reddish, of a close grain, and tolerably hard; small grains of quartz are observed in it, which appear to be cemented by an argillaceous substance. This stone is employed in the making of highways, and for grind-stones. I observed, in the high road between Wirksworth and Crumford Moor, in a heap of this free-stone, groups of vitreous spar, in small cubes, in a matrix, which I conceive to be a gypseous indurated earth; this spar probably came there by accident, perhaps from one of the neighbouring lead-mines; for the free-stone did not appear to contain any extraneous substance.

2. Black argillaceous schistus or slate†, (*shale*). Its thickness is from 140 to 150 yards, measured in the mine of Yatestoe near Winster. They could not inform me whether this schistus contained petrifications or impressions of plants, although it perfectly resembled that which covers the pit-coal throughout Derbyshire, and which abounds with them. The miners call this schistus by different names, according to the difficulty they find in working it; they term it *shale*, *hard-beds*, *penny-shale*, and *black-beds*. In the midst of this schistus, there are sometimes found considerable fragments of lime-stone, black, and of a fetid smell, which is commonly beneath the schistus: I verified this observation near Wensley, in the environs of Winster, where the high road is cut through this schistus, and where all the beds are uncovered.

3. First calcareous bed (the first lime-stone). Its thickness is from 35 to 50 yards. In the environs of Ashford this stone is of great hardness, and does not contain any petrification; it is used as black marble. The softest parts of this stone, particularly those exposed to the air, exhale a disagreeable smell when rubbed, and consequently are a true stink-stone. I saw the same stone worked between Snitterton and Winster, which contained no petrifications, although it commonly abounds with them, particularly in bivalves‡. Near Wensley, the common *silix* is found in kidney-form pieces, and in little fragments about two inches thick, as also at Ashford, where these fragments are of a

* Mr. Whitehurst calls it *millstone-grit*: according to this author, the thickness of the bank is 120 yards; he says that it is composed of rounded grains of quartz, and small fragments of the same substance, where the irregularities of the fracture are still very visible. See Inquiry into the original State and Formation of the Earth, &c. by John Whitehurst. London, 1778, 4to p. 147. (Note of the French translator.)

† Mr. Whitehurst calls it *shale*, or *shiver*, and the thickness of the bank, according to him, is 120 yards; he confirms what M. Ferber says concerning the impressions of vegetables. The springs which rise in this schistus are all of a ferruginous nature. P. 148. (F. Tr.)

‡ Among the petrified bivalved shells, which are found in great quantity in this bed, are observed many anomias, the originals of which no where exist in the seas surrounding England.

Near Ashford, Mr. Henry Watson has discovered in the same stone, an impression of a crocodile, in a good state of preservation.

Mr. Whitehurst moreover tells us, that this stone is often intersected by very thin beds of slate. P. 149. (F. Tr.)

more considerable bulk. It should be observed that the filex of Wensley, which is found in the midst of black lime-stone, adheres strongly to it, while that observed in the chalk of Oxfordshire and on the sea shore, has no adhesion to this substance. The filex which serves for stone-ware, of which there are several manufactures in Derbyshire, comes from the coast of Norfolk.

4. First bed of toadstone (*toadstone*, *dunstone*, *blackstone* in England, *whinstone* in Scotland.) The name of toadstone has been given on account of its black colour, specked with white*. This stone, like those of the same species, which we shall mention hereafter, does not contain any ore, and throughout Derbyshire cuts the veins of metal†: the base is argillaceous, more or less indurated, for some pieces appear to be only an indurated argil, while others approach the jasper in hardness. This stone is overspread with little grains or globules of calcareous spar, the size and form of which vary; some are so small, that to the naked eye they are lost in the black substance of the stone itself; some are as large as a pea, and even as a bean. I have assayed this stone with acids, which dissolved with ebullition, the parts of calcareous spar, without altering the substance of the stone itself, which after the assay was of sufficient hardness to scratch glass, although being struck with a steel, only emitted some faint sparks. The substance of this stone, being stripped of all its calcareous parts, appeared to me refractory before the blow pipe; with the assistance of salt of tartar, I converted it into a blackish scoria; which seems to indicate a siliceous principle, though it does not possess the hardness of siliceous stones†.

The thickness of the first bed of this stone is commonly from 14 to 16 yards; but what proves the great variation in the thickness of these beds is, that in *Blackhillock*, a very considerable mine near *Tideswall*, a well has been dug of 160 yards in depth, in this stone, without passing through it. In the same mine, about 800 fathoms in the principal well, towards the south, the thickness of the *toadstone* has been found to be of 40 yards, and towards the north, about 300 fathoms from the same place, it was only three yards.

5. The second calcareous bed (the second or the grey lime stone). Its thickness is 33 fathoms; there are two kinds, the one soft, which being rubbed, yields a fetid smell; it is used for the most part to make lime; the other harder, which is used for

* M. Jars says because it is pretended that living toads have often been found in it. *Voyage Metall.* tom. i. p. 546.

† M. Faujas de St. Fond, who has just published an excellent work on trapp, has proved that certain species of toad-stone contained metallic veins; as the species cited by M. Faujas is known under the name of *cat-dirt* at Castleton, and as he has been in the mine himself, there remains no doubt whatever of the fact. (F. Tr.) This is a mistake, for *cat-dirt* is not toad-stone, being on the contrary a soft blue lime-stone, impregnated with sulphur, as the very name *cat-dirt* (*merde du chat*) must imply to an English reader. J. P.

‡ Mr. Whitehurst gives us the following description of the toad-stone:

“It is a blackish substance, very hard, and full of little cavities like metallic scorias, or the lava of Iceland; chemical analysis proves that it possesses the same principles. Many of these cavities contain spar (calcareous); others are empty. It is not composed of layers like many other stones, but it always presents a solid and uniform mass, which breaks in all directions, and which never contains either ore, nor mineral or vegetable productions. The beds of toad-stone are not met with every where, as the calcareous beds, and the variation in the thickness of the same bank, clearly prove its origin to be volcanic.”

Another reason which induces Mr. Whitehurst to think that the toad-stone is a volcanic production, and of a later formation than that of the calcareous beds, and others, is that the perpendicular clefts which are observed in the calcareous beds, are filled with toad-stone; consequently the calcareous beds existed perfectly formed and cleft before the toad-stone. (F. Tr.)

many domestic purposes, like marble*. These two varieties of stone are full of all kinds of petrifications, besides a great number of madrepores, among which may be distinguished the *madrepora flexuosa* of Linneus; and there are found a great number of cameas of a surprising bulk. In several places I found this grey calcareous stone changed into grey filex, which contained handsome entrochites, larger, but in other respects similar to those seen at Cubach, in the duchy of Blanckenbourg.

6. Second bed of toadstone†; it perfectly resembles the first; the thickness of the bed is 46 yards. In the mine of Hubber-dale, this stone had lost its ordinary hardness to such a degree, that it perfectly resembled soft clay.

7. Third calcareous bed‡; it is grey and analogous to the second; the thickness of the bed is 70 yards.

8. Third bed of toadstone; it commonly resembles the first and second, and its thickness is 22 yards. In the mine of Hubber-dale, this stone was of the consistence of soft clay, of a greenish colour; it was full of small pieces of black argil and calcareous spar, in veins; it is here called *channel*.

9. Fourth calcareous bed (the fourth lime-stone); it is grey like the preceding, and is found at the greatest depth. Its thickness is at present unknown, though in many places attempts have been made to pass through it: at Gorsey-dale, Bacon-Rake, Masson, and Middleton, in the environs of Wirksworth, it has been pierced to 40 fathoms without finding the bottom.

The different beds of limestone and toad-stone, which we have just described, are often intersected by beds of argil, from one to four feet in thickness; but as this argil appears to be formed in the horizontal cracks or clefts of these stones, it cannot be placed in the rank of substances which form regular beds. The quantity of pyrites in pieces of kidney-form, found in these argillaceous beds, has perhaps some share in the heat observed in all the springs that rise there; or else, do the calcareous beds contribute towards it§?

Before proceeding to the description of the accidental beds, I conceive it necessary to speak of the veins which are found in the ancient beds.

The direction of metallic veins in the ancient beds, is generally very regular in all the mines in Derbyshire; the salband of these veins is distinct; its thickness is from one to seven ells. I found that the greater part of the veins proceed between the 8th and 9th hour, or according to the English compass between the 12th and 2d. They are either perpendicular or inclined; very few are horizontal. I here confirmed what I have said in the *Memoirs on the Mineralogy of Bohemia, with respect to the Veins of Metal*, that they were not met with in primitive mountains alone, but also in secondary mountains, and that consequently the name of *veined mountains* did not belong exclusively to primitive mountains. It is essential to remark in this place, that the veins of Derbyshire vary in almost every bed. In a freestone and argillaceous schistus, when these two substances met together, the veins which commonly rise to the surface are constantly without ore; the contrary is observed in the four calcareous beds, which, under

* Mr. Whitehurst observes, what M. Ferber has perhaps forgotten, that the calcareous stone which composes the beds of Derbyshire is generally foliated; which sufficiently indicates the manner in which it has been formed. The thickness of the second bed, according to Mr. Whitehurst, is 25 fathoms. F. Tr.

† Mr. Whitehurst informs us that the toad-stone of the second bed is more compact than that of the first, and that there are no cavities in it. P. 151.

‡ The thickness of this bed, according to Mr. Whitehurst, is 30 fathoms; this stone contains fewer petrifications than the former, and seems of a white colour. F. Tr.

§ See Ferber, Letters on Mineralogy, p. 187, of the German edition.

the same circumstances, are almost always extremely rich. The three beds of toadstone*, though they always accompany limestone, never contain ore; and as I have remarked before, always cut the veins. The following is an example: When a vein has been worked in black calcareous stone, the ore is lost so soon as the toadstone is approached, and the same vein does not re-appear till the whole bed of toadstone has been cut through; the vein is again worked, and if it prove of sufficient richness, it is pursued, under the same circumstances, to the fourth calcareous bed, which has never yet been passed through. This phenomenon is without doubt, one of the most extraordinary and singular of its kind, and to account for it, is not less difficult. To enquire whether the three beds of toadstone existed before the formation of the veins, or to attempt to determine whether they have always preserved the same solidity, would be engaging ourselves in hypotheses which would lead to nothing; what I have said above, may be confirmed every day in the lead-mines of this country. My opinion is, that the toadstone has only choked up the veins, which consequently have ramified, and probably re-united in one of the lower beds; this supposition will not appear venturesome to persons concerned with the working of mines; for experience proves, that veins which fork off, leaving their former direction, very often unite at a great depth, and then resume their former course. Another singularity with respect to beds of toadstone, which seems to contradict my opinion, is that this singular substance divides the different beds, so that a gallery inundated in the first bed, will not be of the least prejudice to the works carried on in the second; and the labourers in a lower gallery will be perfectly dry, while all the upper galleries are under water.

The accidental beds, or those found above the accidental beds, differ extremely throughout Derbyshire, and each district presents some particularity. The following came under my observation:

1. Red marl resting on striated gypsum, in a quarry of Chellastone, three leagues from Derby.

2. A mine of argillaceous iron, that is, a ferruginous argil of a reddish colour, more or less indurated; it is commonly found above the pit-coal. I saw some at Stanley, in a coal-mine, which appeared under the form of a very weighty bluish argil, and seemed to contain much iron; it is called *ironstone*. As far as I could learn, no use is made of it; and at the time I was in Derbyshire, there was not one foundery, nor even forge throughout the whole country. What is there called *iron-work*, or *iron-mill*, consists of establishments, where, by means of cylindrical machines, bars of iron are flattened, which are afterwards cut into very narrow fillets for the different manufactures at Birmingham. These establishments are at Derby, Chesterfield, Godnor, Barton fields, Newmills, Plestly, Stavely, &c.

3. Manganese in kidney-form pieces, in the clay above the pit-coal, in several places.

4. Pit-coal. It is found in very great quantity in the flat country surrounding the Peak, and is worked in several places. This coal is commonly found at a little depth beneath the vegetable earth, which, in these parts, is rather marly; the roof is a black argillaceous schistus, which in colour and compactness much resembles the schistus which forms the second layer of the ancient beds. Yet, on a little examination of this schistus, we find that it differs materially from that of the ancient beds; for it is always found above free-stone which forms the first bed, and between the dif-

* It is very surprising that so skilful a mineralogist as M. Ferber should make no mention of the great resemblance between toadstone and trapp. F. Tr.

ferent banks of coal; and this position alone indicates a formation posterior to that of the ancient beds. Independent of this, it contains a great number of impressions of plants and other vegetables, while in the ancient beds none are ever discovered. Most of these vegetables are of the class of ferns, and they have a great analogy with the ferns of America, described by father Plumier. The same impressions of vegetables are sometimes observed in the marly beds which cover the coal in several places.

5. Foliated free-stone, (*slate*) of an extremely fine grain, and of a greyish yellow colour. I saw this stone worked in an open quarry near Matlock; it is found in large flags, which are used to pave the interior of houses, especially brew-houses. I am not quite certain whether this free-stone belong to the accidental beds, or if it should be regarded as a simple variety of the free-stone which forms the first bank of the ancient beds, although it be of a finer and more compact grain. I have the same doubts with respect to a soft free-stone of a grey colour, which is found in beds of little thickness above coal, in Derbyshire, Staffordshire, and at Newcastle, and which is there called *free-stone* or *sand-stone*; it is very probable that this stone owes its origin to particles which have been detached from the ancient free-stone, and carried by the waters to this place.

6. *Rotten-stone*; it is a kind of tripoli, full of calcareous particles; it is of a brown colour, of a very fine grain, and is particularly used for polishing tin, crystal, &c.; it is always found above coal. In M. Davila's catalogue, this substance is described under the name of *creta fusca*.

7. *Stuff-stone*, *stuff* or *tuff*. This name has been given to a bank of calcareous stone of little thickness, and of very fine grain, though porous, which is found at the surface, in the environs of Winster. This stone must not be confounded with the stuff-stone of Hubber-dale mine, which belongs to the ancient beds.

8. In the environs of Matlock-Bath, there is observed a considerable bed consisting of vegetables incrustated with a calcareous matter, which has been deposited by the warm springs issuing from the mountains. In some places this substance is eight yards thick, and of sufficient solidity for buildings, in which I have seen it employed. This bed which daily increases in thickness, covers all the hills of black calcareous stone, in the environs of Matlock. In the interior of this bed, the most beautiful incrustations are found, as well as mamellated stalactites of a very handsome form; I have even seen petrified shells, and lithophytes which were probably detached from one of the neighbouring calcareous banks, and which consequently came there only by accident. I observed the same productions in the channels formed by the water flowing from the mountain, and in which it is often seen of the height of three feet; the bed of these channels was full of mamellated stalactites in the form of cauliflowers. The hot baths of Matlock are much celebrated; they also possess the property of incrustating whatever is exposed to them.

Such is the order in which the ancient or universal beds, and those which I call accidental, appear in Derbyshire. It remains for us to fix our attention upon the consequences which have followed their sinking obliquely, and the violent ruptures, which is the more necessary, as it is the only means of explaining a great number of phenomena, which are peculiar to all countries, of which the organization is similar to that of Derbyshire, and since we shall thence be enabled to conceive how the inferior layers of certain beds, are sometimes found above, while the superior layers of the same bed are observed in the vallies. But as throughout Derbyshire the beds are seldom horizontal, but nearly all lose themselves obliquely under ground, or terminate

nate at the surface, there should naturally follow a very great variety in the stones found above the surface, particularly in a country of no considerable extent.

In some parts the oblique beds are covered by accidental beds, which increases the species of stones or earths found on the surface. The effect of a violent rupture is observed near Matlock High Tor, where a portion of the beds is sunk to a depth of more than 40 yards; there is every appearance that the Derwent, which at present passes over the place where the rupture happened, was the cause. This falling in has, however, produced a great advantage to the country, since the valley which formerly was frequently exposed to the inundations from the river, is now more elevated, and is become a very fertile country.

We can easily imagine that the portion of the beds which remains regular, must be more elevated than that which is sunk, as we may be convinced, by the calcareous beds which are seen uncovered; but without admitting of a rupture, the mere sinking may always occasion the same phenomenon, if the place which serves them for a base affects a surface more or less unequal.

At the summit of the mountain called the *High Peak*, the two first ancient beds, that is, the reddish free-stone and the black schistus are altogether wanting, and on the middle height the ancient beds are uncovered; but in the low part of this mountain, the *Low Peak*, between Wirksworth and Winster, the free-stone and schistus re-appear of considerable thickness, and still lower towards the town of Derby, they are observed at a considerable depth, again covered by accidental beds. At Moneyash there is no indication of the four first ancient beds. The grey calcareous stone, which in the natural order, forms the fifth bed, there is near to the surface. In Hubber-dale mine, which is a league and a half from Moneyash, the pits are dug through grey calcareous stone; and the ore worked there, which is principally lead, is only found in the third calcareous bed. Near Ashford, a little town a league from Moneyash, and which three hundred fathoms higher than the latter place, the first calcareous bed upon which the black schistus rests, is terminated at the surface.

Of the Natural Caves of the Peak.

THE calcareous covering of the Peak, which traverses the greatest part of Derbyshire, contains a great number of caves of different sizes. These caves, which are all in the second calcareous bed, most probably owe their origin to the filtration of water from without, or to subterranean springs; most of them abound with calcareous stalactites, of various forms and colours; their size is also very different; those most esteemed are of a beautiful white, or have lively-coloured veins; these latter are streaked with yellow, grey, and milk-colour: they are worked at Ashford, and I have seen vases made of some of the most beautiful pieces.

There are many descriptions of these caves, in which are fancied, in the different forms which these stalactites have assumed, resemblances oftentimes ridiculous, with human figures, or animals, of which persons in many parts of Germany, especially at the Hartz, in the celebrated grotto called *Baumannshoble*, would have persuaded me. Without farther notice of these wonderful descriptions, I shall content myself with mentioning the most remarkable caves of the Peak.

Poole's Hole.—This cave is near Buxton, and is rich in stalactites; it is said to be half an English mile in length, and is traversed by a rivulet, which makes a great roaring.

The Great Cave of Castleton, called the *Devil's A—e* in English.—The diameter of this cave is computed at 150 feet. It is pretended that it communicates with *Elden Hole*,

Hole, another cave, six or eight leagues from Castleton, which is nearly perpendicular, and which, as it is said, enlarges considerably towards the bottom.

Hofen's Hole and *Burmforth Hole* are two caves near Stony Middleton.

Lath-Kill Arse.—This cave is observed at the distance of a league from Moneyash, in the valley of Lath Kill, at Moneyash Moor; it is not far from the quarry of grey marble, an appellation given to the grey lime-stone forming part of the ancient beds. This cave is not so large as that of Castleton, yet, after heavy rain, there flows from it such a prodigious quantity of water, that the whole valley of Lath Kill is often overflowed.

Of the Hot and Intermittent Springs of the Peak.

THE Peak abounds in hot springs, which take their rise in the gaps of the mountain; most of them are unknown, because they are found in parts little frequented, and remote from the high road. The most remarkable are,

The Hot Baths of Matlock, on the side of the calcareous hill. There are two; the first is *Matlock Old Bath*, of which the temperature is 68 degrees of Fahrenheit, and *Matlock New Bath*, the temperature of which is one degree hotter: the water of both these baths contains calcareous particles, which incrust any objects exposed to the water, as well as the parts over which it runs, as I observed speaking of the accidental beds. During the fine weather, the baths of Matlock are much frequented.

Quarn, or Quarnden.—A small place, known by its acidulated waters, which attract many persons to it in summer.

Buxton has a warm bath, the smoke issuing from which seems to indicate a stronger degree of heat than it really possesses. Near the bath I observed many other chalybeate springs, of which no use is made.

Tideswell.—Here is one of those intermittent springs, where the water only issues by intervals: when the basin which receives all the water has nearly lost the third part by the continual flowing out, which is done in ten minutes, the water is seen to flow again from the opposite side with so much force, that in five minutes the whole of the basin is filled. Some authors, without reason, have imagined a subterraneous communication between the reflux source of Tideswell and the sea, and would, by the effect of the flux and reflux, account for this phenomenon. I am inclined to think, that in the interior of the mountain there are great cavities, the air of which acts on this spring.

Of the Quarries of Derbyshire.

THE stones used for the construction of buildings and high roads, are taken from the calcareous beds; sometimes the reddish free-stone is employed for the same purpose; this depends upon the situation and means of the proprietor. The houses in general are built of brick, and covered with slate. In many parts I saw the foliated free-stone employed, which is often observed between beds of pit-coal, and which is particularly used for the paving of magazines, cellars, and other similar constructions.

The manner by which grinding-stones are here procured, appeared to me remarkable enough: the size is first traced on one of the beds of free-stone, and all the stone about it removed; when the general form is obtained, several horizontal holes are pierced, half a foot into the stone towards its base, according to the intended thickness; dry pieces of wood are driven into these holes, and in a few days swelled by humidity, they cause the stone to split.

The quarries of lime-stone employ a great number of workmen, particularly in the environs of Buxton: grey and black calcareous stone are indifferently used, principally

those pieces which are not handsome enough for ornament like marble. Lime made from black calcareous stone, containing a vast quantity of shells, is here preferred to that made from the grey.

The black marble observed near Ashford, is procured from the first calcareous bed, of which it is only a variety; it is distinguished by a greater solidity, and a beautiful black. The grey marble, which is derived from the second calcareous bed, and the quarry of which is near Lath Kill-Dale, two leagues from Bakewell, contains a great number of entrochites; it sometimes has red veins, which gives it a pretty appearance. These marbles are worked in considerable quantities in the mills established near Ashford, where, by the means of water, the marble is sawed and polished. Near the same place I saw a manufactory where the beautiful fluor spar, of the colour of the amethyst, was worked. It is found in almost every lead mine, and the largest and handsomest pieces are used to make vases. I have seen the stalactites which I mentioned above, used for the same purpose, which employs a great number of workmen in the towns of Derby, Winster, Matlock, &c.

At Chellastone, about three miles from Derby, I observed a quarry of plaster of Paris. The surface of the fields near this quarry, was covered with a greyish argil, full of fragments of a fetid stone, and a ferruginous oker in indurated pieces of a kidney-form. Below this argil there was a bed of reddish marl, three yards thick, the beds of which nearest to the surface were friable, and served for manure; but the remainder only presented a marly stone of tolerable hardness, of which no use was made. Under the marl was a bank of plaster stone, nearly horizontal, eight ells in thickness. In several places, this stone was tolerably hard, and resembled a white transparent alabaster, which took a very fine polish: some pieces were spotted with red, and traversed by marly veins, from the superior bank; the remainder of the bank was a striated gypsum, which is particularly used for moulds in several porcelain manufactories.

Derbyshire abounds with coal, which is every where worked. The mine of Alferton is the most remarkable; it is furnished with a good steam engine, to carry off the subterraneous water; this mine is ten leagues from Ashford: that of Stansby and Simonfield, had two steam engines; one was of the ordinary form and construction; the other the invention of Mr. Barber, the proprietor of the mine, differed a little*. The pits to descend into this mine are perfectly round, and wholly built of brick; they are descended by means of a small cask, in which the person supports himself upright, or else seated on the chain. I observed in this mine four layers of coal not intersected with slate, as were nearly all the others, but with very thick beds of indurated argil; this substance was variously coloured, and often foliated; what is here called *iron-stone*, is only an argil of a dark brown, very heavy, and seems to contain much iron. The two upper layers of coal at Stansby are not worked, because it is generally believed here, that they are of inferior quality to those found at a greater depth.

The mine of Stansby is one of the deepest that are known, and I found the depth to be 95 yards; the lower beds of coal were only four feet thick, and all the gaps were

* The steam engine of Mr. Barber, differs principally from others, by the steam acting horizontally, while in the others it only acts vertically; it is the same with respect to the cold water which is introduced into the boiler by the side. Almost every coal mine in England is provided with one or two steam engines, and every proprietor has attempted some improvement. The *Dictionary of Arts and Sciences*, fol. London, 1763, may be consulted on this subject, in which the most ordinary steam engines are well represented.

Steam engines are certainly of great utility in a country where coal is abundant; but in countries wanting this combustible, and where wood must supply its place, as I have observed at Schemnitz, in Hungary, it generally becomes too expensive.

filled with pyrites; I was even assured that a considerable heap of galena had been found in the midst of this coal.

Near this mine I saw the method employed to reduce the coals to what is called coak; but as the method here followed is well enough known, and even well described in the Journals of the Arts and Trades, published by the Royal Academy of Sciences, I have considered it superfluous to detail it.

Lead and calamine Mines, which I observed in Derbyshire, ascending the Peak.

Ashborn.—The mines of this little place, which is twelve miles from Derby, are of no importance, and I did not visit them.

Wirkesworth.—A small town between Derby and Matlock-Bath; in this place are a great number of lead mines extending as far as Matlock-Bath; in all these mines the slate has been cut through, to arrive at the veins of metal which intersect the first and second calcareous bed; the labour is performed in galleries which have been excavated in this stone. In general at the surface there is found cellular calamine*, more or less ferruginous, of a brown or dark grey colour; sometimes mixed with ferruginous oker. At a greater depth the ore is found under the form of compact galena, or *bleyschweif*: there is one instance of calamine having been worked, at the depth of 60 yards; for these two minerals are never found in the same vein. The ordinary gangart in the mines of Wirkesworth is the calcareous spar, and the different species of calamine found there, contain calcareous particles; hence arises the effervescence which they make with acids. Near Wirkesworth is a mill for the purpose of refining calamine, for the brass manufactures of Birmingham, where the greater part of the Derbyshire calamine is used. The ore of white lead is seldom found in this mine. The mineral is extracted here as in other countries, by the means of a machine with horses, the construction of which we shall hereafter give.

Middleton or Manny Middleton.—At a little distance from Wirkesworth, in a vein of this mine, some hepatic copper has lately been discovered, containing calcareous particles; this mineral is covered with malachid in little stars.

Maffon.—Near Wirkesworth, in a lead-mine, called Bacon-Rake, the miners have actually worked into the fourth calcareous bed, and have already penetrated to the depth of 30 fathoms.

Crumford.—A small town in the neighbourhood of Wirkesworth: its lead mines are of little importance; but its jurisdiction (*Wapentake*) extends over all the preceding mines.

Matlock.—This place possesses many lead-mines; the most considerable are *Hag-mine*, near Matlock New-Bath, and Old Dimple-mine, near Matlock Old-Bath. The mines of *Lady-gate* and *High Tor Rake*, present nothing remarkable.

I descended into *Hag-mine* by a pit which rests on the gallery which has been excavated in the second calcareous bed, to the depth of 150 yards. The principal vein, the direction of which, according to the English compass is between the eighth and ninth hour, varies very little from the west to the east; it is about two feet thick, but it often ramifies, which renders its working rather difficult. The water is drawn off by a very simple pump, which conveys it to the gallery, whence it is carried off by

* M. Jars says, that the best calamine of Wirkesworth is full of little cavities, resembling those of a bee-hive.—F. Tr.

channels to the Derwent. In all the mines in the environs of Matlock, the first calcareous bed and toadstone are constantly observed; the actual labour is performed in the second calcareous bed: the gangarts which accompany the mineral of the principal vein of Hag-mine, are as follow:

1. White calcareous spar, transparent, with rhomboidal fracture.
2. White calcareous spar, transparent, in hexaedral crystals, or boar's-tooth. (*Dog-tooth spar.*)
3. Compact calcareous spar, of a milky white, of little or no transparency. This spar is the ordinary gangart of the lead mines.
4. Calcareous stalactites (*Water Jerl, Dropstone*) of a milky white, or with yellowish streaks; found in nearly all the galleries, commonly attached to the roof, but of little thickness.
5. White fluor spar, crystallized in transparent cubes, sometimes with a yellowish surface.
6. Fluor spar, of the colour of amethyst, in compact fragments, or crystallized in cubes, in a gypseous earth. Many of these cubes are hollow, and open at top.
7. Caulk, which is also called *calk, carwk, kerwel, keble*, &c. It is a kind of gypseous earth, very white, heavy, extremely fine grain, and as easily cut as chalk; this earth is one of the most common gangarts in the mines of Derbyshire: in Hag-mine it is commonly found in small groups composed of spherical leaves, like the heavy spar of Tschopau, in Saxony, and the surface of which is mamellated; it is used in the manufactures of brass at Birmingham, where, probably, it serves for moulds; it is also pretended that *caulk* renders the regulas of antimony more ductile, and of a closer grain.
8. Compact galena in tolerably large pieces, sometimes found in caulk or white calcareous spar.
9. Polyedronal galena, often resembling small buttons.
10. Octaedronal galena; this species is uncommon.
11. Compact galena. (*Bleyshweif* by the Germans), *steel ore* by the English.
12. Blende, in the form of buttons.

The pit by which I descended into *Old Dimple mine*, and which joined the vein, was 15 fathoms in depth: the direction of the vein was almost perpendicular, and proceeded between noon and the first hour; it branched forth two narrow veins. The miners work in the second calcareous bed, as in *Hag-mine*, and the superior beds were exactly the same. The following are the gangarts of this mine:

1. Milk-white calcareous spar.
2. Transparent calcareous spar in cubes.
3. Calcareous boar's tooth spar, in hexaedronal crystals, hollow, in considerable groups.
4. Calcareous stalactites.
5. White fluor spar, in cubes, covered with pyrites.
6. Caulk.
7. Pyrites upon fluor, or enclosed in galena.
8. Ferruginous oker, of a brown colour, containing lead and calamine.
9. Black-blende, compact, and in buttons on groups of spar. This blende was formerly employed for the manufacture of brass at Bristol; but since calamine has been found so abundant in nearly all the mines, it is scarcely ever used.
10. Compact galena, in pieces of a tolerable size.

Snitterton.

Snitterton.—The lead mines in the neighbourhood of this small town, are found in the first calcareous bed.

Ashover.—*Gregory-mine* is the most remarkable; it contains compact galena, accompanied with *bleysbweif* on calcareous spar, and a singular crystallization of pyrites in very thin plates, notched on the edges like a cock's comb.

Wensley.—The mines of this place are under the jurisdiction of *Winster*.

Winster.—Seven miles from *Wirksworth*. The thickness of the ancient beds at this place, was as follows:

1. Free-stone. The thickness is variable; sometimes it is found covered with a calcareous stone of a yellowish grey, which is here called *Stuff-stone*, &c.

2. Slate - - - 74 fathoms.

3. First calcareous bed - 17

4. First toadstone - 17

5. Second calcareous bed - 18

6. Second toadstone - 24

7. Third calcareous bed - 40

8. Third toadstone - 10

9. Fourth calcareous bed ———

Thickness unknown. 200 fathoms.

Most of the mines of *Winster* were overflowed when I visited them; those which merit some attention, are,

Yatestoop or *Yatestock*: the galleries of this mine are in the first calcareous bed; the thickness of the slate resting on this bed, was about 140 yards. In all the galleries I observed the white calcareous spar to be the most common gangart.

Placket and *Plato*. These two mines are in the second calcareous bed; in the latter I observed, within the vein, a kind of heavy spar, of a white colour, sometimes reddish, enclosed in *caulk*; it appears that the *caulk* owes its existence to the decomposition of this same spar. It was thought for some time, that this spar contained lead; but the assay I made with the blow-pipe did not give the least indication.

Portway or *Portaway*. The principal vein of this mine is found in the second calcareous bed; its direction is very inclined, and is, therefore, according to the language of the English miners, at *pipe*, or *pipe-work*. In this vein I found a vitreous lead ore, white, a little transparent, crystallized in small prisms; these little crystals had the taste of salt of lead, they effervesced with nitrous acid, and by the assistance of the blow-pipe, were reduced to lead glass.

Mill-croft. This mine has nothing very remarkable; a small piece of lead in *caulk* was given me here, said to be native lead.

Elton.—In the mine of *Lordwood-Dome*, green lead, in small prismatic crystals, was formerly found, accompanied with a whitish earth; the lead crystals, as well as the earth, which seems to contain a small portion of this metal, were easily reduced to glass.

Bakewell.—Possesses several lead mines.

Ashford.—The mines of *Ashford* present nothing remarkable.

Moneyash.—I visited the two following mines; *Lathgill-Dale mine*. Among several species of galena, I remarked one which was in polyedron, with a bright lustre, on pyrites, accompanied with a brown blende in buttons, and a white earthy lead ore; these substances were easily vitrified by the blow-pipe.

Hubberdale.

Hubberdale mine, a mile and a half from *Moneyash*, near Bakewell; this mine is 43 fathoms deep. The first calcareous bed is here wholly wanting, as well as the first bed of toadstone, which is replaced by a bed of argil. The second calcareous bed, or the grey calcareous stone, which is found immediately under this clay, in this part is full of shells and petrified entrochites. The principal pit of Hubberdale-mine is cut through this stone; it is often crossed by veins of calcareous spar, which are much inclined: in the place of the second bed of toadstone, I also found a bed of argil. The vein which was then worked is in the third calcareous bed; it proceeds between the 12 and second hour, according to the English compass; and as the inclination is very small, it is consequently at *Pipework*. In this mine a stone, which was called *Stuff-stone*, was given me; but I found that it was only a variety of that which forms the third calcareous bed; it was soft and friable between the fingers. The substance which here follows the third calcareous bed, and which in the natural order should be toadstone, is only a bank of greenish argil, spotted with white; it is called *channel*. This bank of argil has not been pierced through, and the quality of the lower bed is therefore unknown. The gangarts accompanying this vein, are,

Ferruginous oker of a brown colour, often mixed with caulk or calcareous earth.

Cellular iron ore, containing pyrites; this ore is of a dark brown, sometimes changed into hematite.

White calcareous spar.

Pyrites in small quantity.

Caulk in spheroidal plates, containing different sized pieces of very compact galena, of a kidney form: all these gangarts are disposed in thin layers or lamina, in the opposite direction of the vein. When the galena is inclosed in small pieces by calcareous spar, or caulk, it is called *troffel-breast*.

Baslow.—In Calver-mine I found galena or vitreous white spar.

Foslow.—The lead mines of this small place are of little importance.

Eyam.—*Lady-wash* is the name of one of the principal mines of this place; the richest vein, the direction of which is much inclined, proceeds in the first calcareous bed, which is commonly covered with a slate of forty fathoms thickness; calcareous spar, more or less solid, and *caulk*, which is here called *keble*, are the most common gangarts. The most remarkable mineral of *Lady-wash* is galena with a specular surface (slikon fides,) which is most commonly found in very large pieces. This mineral possesses the singular property of detaching itself spontaneously from the vein, particularly in places where the vein begins to grow narrow; the violence with which this operation takes place, is incredible; it is often accompanied with a very great explosion, which may even be heard at a considerable distance from the mine, and is compared to an earthquake; the effect it produces on the scaffolding, which it not only shakes, but also breaks, is often fatal to the workmen; and it is only by strengthening the principal supporters, by the refuse with which they fill the void space between the rock and the supporters, that they are enabled to prevent the total destruction of the galleries. I saw this practised in *Haycliffe-tille*, one of the galleries of *Lady-wash*, when threatened with this accident. The miners could not account for this terrible phenomenon; but I think it may be attributed to the air, which, being greatly compressed, especially where the vein grows narrow, forces a passage. The specular galena is commonly found in double veins, about eight or nine inches distant from each other, having in the middle a bed of caulk of the thickness of three lines; each vein is composed of two halves, which unite so well on the smooth surface, as to appear a work of art. The miners

in

in order to remove tolerably large pieces of this galena, make use of a sharp iron, which they drive vertically into the bed of caulk, separating the two halves of the mineral; this done, they all retire, for in a few minutes all the vein loosens itself with a great noise, and the workmen would endanger their lives, were they not to secure themselves. I was told that each explosion was preceded by a dull noise, like the sound of a bell, which was heard in the galleries, and which enabled the miners to retire in safety.

Tideswell.—This town is four miles from Buxton; here I saw several small quartzose crystals, which presented two pyramids joining at the base, and which had been found in one of the lead mines.

Buxton.—Thirty-five miles from Derby, some pits have been cut to the second calcareous bed; the veins in great part are filled with white calcareous spar, which contains very little coarse-grained galena. No machines are made use of to descend into these mines, but the workmen enter and retire by climbing. The small crystals known in England under the name of *Buxton diamonds*, which are used for several articles of jewelry, are found detached in the environs of this town; they are small quartzose crystals, very clear, and often coloured with red.

Castleton.—The mines of this little town are generally poor in ore, and employ only about 50 persons. I observed at the foot of Mam Torr*, a very steep calcareous mountain near Castleton, some galleries which directly led to a vein which terminated nearly at the surface. The gangue of the vein is calcareous spar, of a milky colour; containing very little coarse grained galena. The chief productions of the mines of Castleton, are different vitreous spars, which are used for vases or other objects of ornament, according to their size and beauty of colour. The purple spar is the most common, and by way of falband, accompanies the white vitreous spar; in English it is called *Derbyshire blue John*, *blue-stone*, *Johnstone*. The labourers who work these spars, dwell at *Derby*, *Winstler*, *Matlock*, &c. in other parts of the county. All the pieces of workmanship are transported to Birmingham, where they are mounted in gilt copper, and other metals. The largest pieces of vitreous spar found at Castleton, are about a foot in length; artificial colours are sometimes applied to these spars, to increase the lustre and variety of the natural ones.

Oden-mine, near *Castleton*, is celebrated for the explosions of the specular galena, sometimes observed there, which are quite as dreadful as those of Lady-wash at *Eyam*.

Political and Economical Constitution of the Mines of Derbyshire.

ALL the mines of Derbyshire are situated in the highest part of the county, called the *Peak*, which is commonly divided into the *High* and *Low Peak*. Each part is subdivided into small districts, known under the names of *Liberties*, *Wapentakes*, *Manors*, which are called after the names of the towns they contain; for example, *Winstler-liberty*, *Asbford-manor*, &c. The ordinances and statutes of all these liberties, relative to the working of the mines, are every where the same, with the exception of some particular customs, and the right which each district possesses of choosing an inspector.

* The earth and stones which fall down, from this mountain, form, in several parts, small hills, which daily increase in size, and are regarded by the common people as one of the seven wonders of the Peak.

of the mines*. This inspector, or director, who is called the *Barmaster*, or *Deputy Barmaster*, partly depends on the proprietor of the land in which the mine is, and sometimes also on the farmers of the mine, who may dismiss him at pleasure; his only profit arises from the emolument of his employment. The *Barmaster* does not direct the labour of the miners; but his principal occupation is to attend to the measurement of the mineral which is sold to the founders, and to exact the tribute which belongs to the lord of the estate; he also grants permission to persons wishing to work a mine, and in fine settles the little disputes occasionally arising among the miners. Every important suit is decided by the tribunal of the mines, of which we shall speak hereafter.

In the *High Peak*, the right of working mines, belongs exclusively to the king, and the *Barmaster*, or director, is elected, and confirmed in his situation by the king's farmers. All the mines of the Peak are besides inspected by a director general (*the head Barmaster*) who has allowances, but is equally dependant on the farmers of the king, and the proprietors.

The director general also presides in the grand council of mines, which is here called the *Barmote court*, and is generally composed of the *steward* and 24 *jurors*; the latter, when assembled, form what is called *the grand jury*. In the royal mines the farmers are at the same time the jurors. The grand council of mines (*the great Barmote court*) assembles twice in the year, at Easter and at Michaelmas; the lesser council (*court of trial*) also assembles every three weeks, and even oftener, if requisite.

The grand council possesses absolute jurisdiction over all things relating to the mines; as, for example, disputes concerning boundaries, misunderstandings between the proprietors and others; it judges according to a printed code, which is generally followed; but it can even in case of necessity alter the laws. The king has a thirteenth of all the mineral worked; in the mines granted by concession, the same benefit belongs to the proprietor of the land. In exchange, the worker of the mines has the privilege of cutting the necessary wood from the nearest royal forest, and employing, for his purpose, the nearest water. According to an English author†, the king's thirteenth, in the district of Wirksworth alone, is valued at a thousand pounds sterling annually.

Individuals are not permitted to work a vein on the land of another, without consent of the proprietor, excepting persons immediately dependant on the king, or particularly attached to him (the king's liege people); these have the liberty of working a vein wherever they think proper, and they are only obliged to respect houses, gardens, and orchards; but their works must be carried on within rule, and according to the laws of the mines; in breach of these, the proprietor may choak up the work. See *Jars*, tom. 3, p. 541, art. 16.

The proprietor of the land has always the right of the first market, in the sale of the mineral, unless he has arranged otherwise with the worker; but no sale can take place without the consent, and unless in the presence of the *Barmaster*, and his measure must even be used; at every sale he receives a recompense, depending on the liberality of the vender.

The old and abandoned mines, as well as the newly discovered veins, cannot be worked without a grant from the *Barmaster*. To persons wishing to work the old or

* On this subject a work may be consulted, entitled, *The Miner's Guide, or a complete Miner*, by W. Hardy, of Sheffield, 1748, 8vo. and *Jars*, *Voyage Metallurgique*, tome, iii. p. 538; the jurisprudence of the mines of the county of Derby.

† The relation between the ordinances of the mines of Derbyshire, and those of Saxony and Germany, renders it probable that the ancient Saxons introduced the art of mining into England. F. Tr.

† *A Tour through Great Britain*, vol. iii. London, 1773, 8vo. p. 78.

abandoned mines, a certain portion (*measure of ground*) is granted; 32 yards in the *High Peak*, and 29 in the *Low Peak*; that is, half of the portion on each side of the pit. For a new vein, a double portion is allowed; 58 yards for the *Low Peak*, and 64 for the *High Peak*, according to the direction of the vein. The proprietor of the land, in like manner, receives a half measure on each side of the pit, for all the new veins: the *Barmaster* also grants, to every worker of a mine, a place without it, necessary for washing and separating the ore, as well as for refuse, and a path to his work. The emoluments of the *Barmaster* are fixed at a dish*, or about 70 pounds weight of ore, which he always takes from the first produce. In an old and abandoned mine, the proprietor of the land receives nothing.

The portions granted by concession, are marked at the surface by holes, in which a kind of wooden cross is fixed, called *stowes* or *crosses*, serving as a boundary. The removal or alteration of this limit, is severely punished; and those who work the mines, are bound to guard their preservation; in default of which, they forfeit their right of grant.

The mines of Derbyshire are worked by companies or societies. The members of these societies are commonly wealthy people, who work several mines at once, and divide the shares† at their will. The superintendence of these mines, is generally entrusted to an honest and able person of the district, who acts, at the same time, in the capacities of a geometrician, juror, and secretary to the society; and who also sells the mineral. It may easily be conceived, that a single man cannot bestow the necessary attention on so many occupations; every thing is in consequence carried on with negligence, and the working of the mines is in general so little within rule, that it is only the extreme richness of the mineral which can counterbalance the losses of the proprietors, arising from an unskilful administration.

The covenants with the workmen are renewed every six weeks; at the same period the ore is sold to the founders, who then assemble there in great numbers.

There are actually three lead founderies in Derbyshire, belonging to very wealthy merchants‡. The lead is generally conveyed to London through Derby, or else, sent to Hull in Yorkshire, whence it passes to foreign countries. The ore is sold to the founders at the rate of seven or eight pounds sterling, the ton§; the melted lead is, in fact, worth 15 guineas per 24 hundred weight.

The miners of Derbyshire are, in general, robust and enterprising people; they are called, in English, *Peakriders*; their salary is very small, as is that of all miners, when the laborious and dangerous nature of their employment is considered.

Working of the Mines of Derbyshire, and the Machines employed.

THE mountains of Derbyshire present to the naturalist a great number of curious objects; but they are much less interesting to those who only regard the working of the mines, for, in general, this branch of industry is in a deplorable condition||. The

* A dish is a measure for the mineral, commonly weighing 60 or 70 pounds, more or less according to its quality. See *Jars*, tom. 3. p. 539.

† These shares are called *Kuxe* in German.

‡ The number of founderies has increased since M. Ferber was there. F. Tr.

§ The ton contains twenty hundred weight, each hundred weight, a hundred and twelve pounds, English weight.

|| All authors agree as to the bad administration of the mines of England, and the defective method of working them; we may read what Mr. Kirwan says on this subject, in the preface to his *Minerology*. F. Tr.

number and richness of the veins are, perhaps, the cause of the want of that attention which is so much admired in the other enterprizes of that enlightened nation, and I am led to think that the considerable revenues, which the proprietors constantly derive from these mines, render them insensible to further profit. It is pretended, that it is for political reasons that the general administration of the mines is on so bad a footing as we see it. My knowledge of the constitution of England is too limited to decide whether a better arrangement would be dangerous; but I am well convinced, that this branch of industry will never arrive to a high degree of perfection, unless a supreme council be established over the mines, with unlimited power to reform all abuses.

It is but a very few years since the English began to pay attention to the study of mineralogy*, while in most other parts of natural history, they have long possessed learned men of very great merit. I think I may, with some reason, say that mineralogy in England is still in its cradle, and it is not long since the Cornish miners threw away the bismuth with the refuse, as a substance perfectly useless; and they would have remained in the same error, had it not been for Dr. Schlosser of Amsterdam†. What I am about to relate of the internal construction of the mines and founderies, will qualify my readers to judge of the rest.

In almost every part of Derbyshire, the veins are sufficiently rich, and the rock so solid, that they are relieved from the expence of scaffolding; but it will appear surprising to learn, that even steps and ladders are neglected. Every overseer directs the labour of the mines according to his ability; and as economy is sought as much as possible, the timber of the mines is every where in so bad a condition, and the pits so ill constructed, that it is impossible to form an idea of it. In a great number of the mines, the labourers ascend and descend, by climbing on bad steps at the risk of their lives. In some pits near Winster, steps are managed in the four corners of the pit, without order, and too distant from each other; in others, the pieces of wood serving for the ladder-steps are so badly fastened, or so near the side of the pit, that the foot cannot be fixed; in fine, I have seen sloping steps and almost rotten, which is certainly a proof of extreme negligence. Conceive the danger of descending a pit more than 40 fathoms in depth, and perpendicular, like that of Hubber-dale, on steps of such little solidity!

Fire was formerly used in the working of the mines, as appears from the ordinances: at present *pick-maws* and *boring-maws* alone are used; sometimes gunpowder is employed.

The miners work by the day, or according to a certain rate. The day is of six hours; but those who work at a certain rate, can only be discharged at the end of every six weeks; they receive three, four, and five pounds sterling the fathom, according to the quality of the rock, but they are obliged to furnish the powder themselves, and to cleanse the ore.

The separation of the ore is performed without the mine, by means of a large hammer or *bucket*; women and children are generally employed for this purpose.

The mineral is extracted by means of a windlass, and by machines with horses: in mines of great depth, the latter are generally established in an elevated place without any

* I am well acquainted with the works of Woodward, Hill, and Mendez da Costa. M. Forster, a learned German, has also published an Essay on Mineralogy in English; in like manner I might cite the English translation of the mineralogy of Cronstedt, executed by my friend and countryman M. d'Engstrom; but it is to be lamented that the person to whom the edition was entrusted has been allowed to make alterations which are nowise favourable to the work.

† See *Eorlase, Natural History of Cornwall*, Oxford, 1753, fol.

covering, furrounded with a little wall. One of the best machines of this kind, was that of Hubber-dale; all the others I saw, were constructed on nearly the same model, except that they were too massy, and the circle was of too large a diameter, and too narrow: I have seen some of these engines made with two boards nearly circular, on the edges of which some bad planks were nailed.

To carry off the water, hand pumps and water engines are generally used. Steam engines are only employed in coal mines: it is true that in mines of little depth, these machines are sufficient, and it would even be imprudent to establish more expensive ones; but I believe that in general the use of these machines is continued here, because they have been once introduced, and that too little attention is paid to the improvements these works require.

Preparation of the Ore.

THE mineral containing the lead is either compact or inclosed. The compact needs no other preparation than to be broken, by means of a large hammer, into pieces of a moderate size. The ore enclosed by, or mixed with, other substances, requires to be separated from its gangart; in this labour, which employs women and children, there is so little care, that a great part of the metal is thrown away with the refuse. Stamping and washing* are not yet introduced, but a particular method is employed to separate the ore from the gangart and earthy particles, which is a very imperfect kind of washing, and as defective as the labours of these mines in general.

Lead Foundries.

THREE principal foundries are reckoned in Derbyshire, belonging to wealthy individuals: the ore melted here is purchased from the mines in the environs, perfectly cleansed. The test kiln is generally introduced throughout Derbyshire and is perhaps the best invention of this country. This furnace has been described, though very imperfectly, by M. Justi, in the third volume of his chemical works, and it is impossible to form a precise idea of it after so bad a description; that given by M. Jars (tom. ii. Voyages Metallurgiques) is infinitely superior, and executed with the greatest care; the plates accompanying the description of M. Jars leave nothing wanting on the subject.

As the methods pursued in the foundries of this country are alike, I shall only mention what I observed at Wirksworth. The ore is not broiled before being introduced into the furnace, but a certain quantity of quick-lime is added. I cannot applaud this method, because it is evident, that great part of the metal is exhausted by the arsenical and sulphureous particles which volatilise it; besides, the quick-lime which is added, produces, with the sulphureous particles, a kind of hepar, which dissolves the lead, and probably converts a very great proportion of this metal into litharge or scoria; for this reason it is necessary here to melt their scoria a second time in a small blow furnace.

Though in general the lead of Derbyshire does not appear to contain much silver, it is wrong not to have the matter ascertained by good assays; for nothing varies so much as the contents of ore.

* According to the method followed in Germany and Hungary.

Copper Founderies.

THE copper ore melted at *Derby*, two leagues from *Simonfield*, is worked at *Ecton-hill*, in *Staffordshire**. There is nothing remarkable in the process; the ore being broiled, is melted in furnaces. Among the ores melted here, I observed some laminated pyrites of crystallized copper, some in the form of buttons, others of a bright lustre, upon a mamellated gypseous spar†.

Preparation of Calamine.

THE lead mines between *Wirkesworth* and *Matlock Bath*, afford the greatest quantity of calamine; the colour is commonly white, yellowish, or brown, of a cellular or compact texture. The ore is first reduced to pieces of a moderate size by means of a large hammer, then sifted, in order to separate it from the ferruginous and other extraneous bodies; it is afterwards broiled in a kind of smelting furnace, at the top of which is another little furnace, which serves to dry it. The calamine being broiled is taken to the mill, where by means of two horizontal stones, it is reduced to a very fine powder; but as this preparation cannot take place without humidity from time to time, it is necessary to dry it in the little furnace I have just mentioned. Nearly the whole of the calamine prepared here is transported in casks to *Birmingham*, where a very great quantity is employed in the different brass manufactures.

In several lead mines there is found a calamine in powder, most commonly very impure; it generally contains argil and much sand, which are separated by washing in *German chests*. Another process formerly used in England, has been communicated to me by M. Cramer, a celebrated German chemist; this process consists in broiling by the fire of flame, in a small furnace of calcination, the calamine which contains lead; by this means the lead is melted, and the calamine becomes very friable. The broiled calamine is then placed on planks, the position of which is a little oblique, where children, with small boards fastened to the feet, crush it by treading on it. The water, which is conveyed over the whole surface of the calamine, washes away the finest parts, which are received in little boxes, but the lead remains on the planks, where it is retained by little borders fixed at the extremities.

Formerly blende broiled was employed as calamine, particularly in the environs of *Bristol*‡, where are a great number of brass manufactures. The blende used, was brown and compact, but broiling was sufficient to render it friable; this was performed in a square furnace with a conical chimney, in which the sulphur contained in the ore was sublimated; the remainder was then reduced into very fine powder in a common mill.

Manufacture of Minium.

SEVERAL processes are known to make minium§, particularly that described by M. Justi, in his *Chemical Opuscula*; but this author is mistaken when he says, that in

* A more detailed account of these founderies is given by M. Jars. See *Voyages Metallurgiques*, tom. iii. p. 75.

† M. Forster's Catalogue, 1783, p. 2.

‡ M. Jars has described with his usual accuracy the results of his own experience relative to this subject, *Voyage Metallurgiques*, iii. 106.

§ The best work which has been given on the preparation of minium, is the German work of M. Nose, under the title, *Abhandlung von Mennigbrennen*, Nuremberg, 1779, 8vo.

England galena is employed for this purpose; I have been in a manufacture of minium at Wirksworth, and I can affirm that the purest lead is there employed. The furnace of Wirksworth, to reduce the lead to minium, is very well described by M. Jars; the plate he has annexed to his description is very accurate, and enables the reader to form a very exact idea of this operation, which has always been carefully concealed from travellers.

At Wirksworth there are always two furnaces under the same roof; in each furnace 2240 pounds of lead are calcined, with the aid of pit-coal, and by stirring the melted lead continually during 6 or 7 hours, while the first calcination lasts. The calx of the lead appears, after this first operation, under the form of grey powder, bordering in a very small degree on the yellowish. To give a red colour, this powder is pounded by an horizontal mill-stone, moistening it from time to time; after the whole mass has been well pounded, and again diluted with a sufficient quantity of water, it is passed through a very fine sieve, in order to separate all the gross particles. This powder, well washed and sifted, is a second time calcined in a furnace perfectly resembling the first. Minium sells, free of carriage to Hull, at the rate of 16 pounds the ton, or 2240 pounds weight. The greatest part of the minium manufactured here, passes to Holland, where great use is made of it in the glass houses.

Manufacture of Porcelain at Derby.

THIS must not be confounded with the manufacture of earthen-ware, which is also in the environs of the town. As the manufacture of porcelain is kept secret in England, I could not obtain all the information I wished on this subject. The following is the account I have gathered. I was assured at London, that in all the manufactures of this kingdom, as at Chelsea, Worcester, Derby, &c. the steatite of Cornwall (*soaprock**) was employed, mingled with a good apyrous argil. I was also informed with respect to the porcelain of Derby, by Dr. Small of Birmingham, that calcareous substances, mingled with others extremely fusible, were only employed, and that the kind of enamel or paste which resulted from this mixture, was ground afresh, and furnished the paste for the Derby porcelain. I have reason to think this information not without foundation, on account of the great number of calcined oyster shells which I saw employed in that manufacture.

Mr. Cookworthy, an apothecary of Plymouth, has obtained the privilege of establishing a manufacture of porcelain in that town. The substance serving for base to this porcelain, is a granite found at St. Stephen's near Plymouth†. This granite, of which I have seen specimens, was composed of a reddish felspar, in pieces of a tolerable size, quartz in small grains, and black scaly mica.

Manufacture of Earthen-ware.

THIS ware of which there are manufactures at Derby, Burslem, and Worcester, is every where known; the English call it stone ware. All the manufactures employ nearly the same materials and pursue the same course: the base is either a white argil, extremely fine, or pipe-clay, which is found in Cornwall, near Tinmouth. When by

* This steatite is found near Cape Lizard, in the county of Cornwall.

† This granite is actually worked on the account of Mr. Wedgwood, an ingenious artist, and known by the master pieces of earthen-ware from his Etrurian manufacture in Derbyshire. F. Tr.

means of washing this earth is reduced to an impalpable paste, it is mixed with a fifth part of its weight of common filex, calcined, and reduced to a very fine powder. As the excellence of this ware depends in great measure on the intimate mixture of these two substances, great care is taken that they are well diluted in a sufficient quantity of water, the only means of mingling them well. The method of working this mass for the different kinds of earthen ware, is known, and therefore needs no description: the most common sort of this ware, or the white ware, receives no other gloss than that it receives from sea-salt, which is thrown into the furnace when the baking is nearly completed; but the finest, which is the yellow, receives a yellowish varnish, after which, it is a second time put into the furnace.

The filex employed in the manufactures of Derbyshire, is never found in that county, and is generally brought from the coast of Norfolk*.

* The information M. Ferber has given us concerning the different English manufactures, is very imperfect, compared with what M. Jars has since published in his *Voyage Metallurgique*. For this reason we entreat our readers to consult this work whenever they are anxious to be more particularly informed on many subjects which M. Ferber has but slightly touched upon. In the same work of M. Jars, there are some very exact engravings of several machines and furnaces, of which M. Ferber was not able to procure satisfactory intelligence, and which for the same reason have been omitted in this translation. (Note of the French Translator).

Manufacture of Porcelain at Derby.

THIS must not be confounded with the manufacture of earthen-ware, which is also in the environs of the town. As the manufacture of porcelain is kept secret in Derby, I could not obtain all the information I wished on this subject. The following is the account I have gathered. I was assured at London, that in all the manufactures of the kingdom, as at Chelsea, Worcester, Derby, &c. the essence of Cornish (china) was employed, mingled with a good quantity of flint. I was also informed with respect to the porcelain of Derby, by Dr. Smith of Birmingham, that the kind of enamel or paste which resulted from this mixture, was ground and formed without foundation, on account of the great number of calcined oyster shells which I saw employed in that manufacture.

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Manufacture of Earthen-ware.

THIS ware of which there are manufactures at Derby, Burslem, and Worcester, is every where known; the English call it bone-ware. All the manufactures employ nearly the same materials and pursue the same course: the paste is either a white argillaceous fine, or pipe-clay, which is found in Cornwall, near Tunnah. When by

TRA-

This felsite is found near Cape Lizard, in the county of Cornwall. It is usually worked on the account of Mr. Wedgwood, an ingenious artist, and by the master piece of earthen-ware from his Lizard manufacture in Derbyshire. T. F.

TRAVELS, CHIEFLY ON FOOT, THROUGH SEVERAL PARTS OF ENGLAND, IN 1782, DESCRIBED IN LETTERS TO A FRIEND. BY CHARLES P. MORITZ, A LITERARY GENTLEMAN OF BERLIN, TRANSLATED FROM THE GERMAN, BY A LADY.

PREFACE BY THE EDITOR.

ONE of the most distinguishing features in the literary history of our age and country, is the passion of the public for voyages and travels. Of the books that have lately been published, there are none, novels alone excepted, that, in point of number, bear any proportion to them. A spot on the globe can hardly be named, whither some of our adventurous countrymen have not penetrated, and with a public spirit, and a degree of benevolence hardly inferior to their courage, what they have seen, they have published. First encouraged and promoted by royal munificence, it is equally to the credit of the sovereign and his subjects, that both travelling, and the writing of travels, have become fashionable; and the prevailing objects of the public taste. Such has been our national partiality to travellers and travelling that there are instances of enterprising and benevolent men, who have visited foreign countries, merely that they might inform their countrymen what they heard and saw: nay some have been so anxious to gratify this national curiosity, that more than one well-received and useful book of travels might be named, written by persons who never were travellers.

A similar taste actuated the people of France, as long as they continued to be a civilized people. Our rivals in every thing, they also were the only people, who had any pretensions to vie with us either as travellers, or the writers of travels. But, it is not mere national vanity to say, that the English, now at least, far excel the French both in the quantity and quality, of their books of travels. It does not seem difficult to account for this. The French, in general, are so well satisfied with themselves, that, where no political interests intervene, they are seldom much interested about any other people: and they travel and write their travels, not so much with any view of improving themselves or their countrymen, as to be gratified by an opportunity of displaying their superiority to all other nations. It is fair to suppose also, that, like most other nations, they really have less curiosity, than has always marked the character of Englishmen. Still, it needs neither to be denied or concealed, that many Frenchmen have been great travellers, and have also published many valuable books of travels. It is remarkable, however, that whilst many Britons, who have rambled but a few weeks in France, have been so obliging on their return, as to favour their countrymen with a full and true account of all that they heard and seen during their peregrinations, hardly any Frenchman has even given any account (and certainly not any good account) of these kingdoms. If Frenchmen who, more than any other nation, visited England, have seldom thought it worth their while to tell the world what they thought of us and our country, it was still less to be expected from the inhabitants of other countries; who, if not less in the habit of travelling, are certainly less in the habit of publishing their travels.

It may seem, perhaps, to abate a little of that strong idea of French vanity, with which it is hardly possible for Englishmen not to be impressed, to own, as impartiality requires we should, that the accounts which natives of France have given of their own kingdom, do not, probably, much exceed those given of it by natives of Great Britain,

either in minuteness or accuracy, or even in number. These tours into France, however, or any other foreign tours, bear no proportion to the almost countless number of excursions and descriptions, given not only of our island in general, but of almost every particular part of it, by Britons. So copious indeed are these publications, that the valetudinarian, or the inactive man, may now, at his ease, obtain full and exact information of every place, and every circumstance relative to our local history, without stirring from his own fire-side.

It is natural for every man to be partial to that country which he has the happiness to call his own: and for a native of this favoured land, not to be conscious of its superior value is something worse than stupidity. Still, however, it is necessary, proper, and desirable, for the people of any country not to form their judgments of themselves entirely by their own observations; but to learn and know what opinions and what judgments are formed of them by persons, who cannot be suspected of being under any undue bias. It is particularly proper for Englishmen, who have so long allowed themselves the great liberty of giving their unreserved opinions of others. But amidst all our stores of domestic, as well as travelling, anecdotes, such a view of England seems to be still a desideratum.

That the humble volume now submitted, with all possible deference to the candour of the English nation, in an English dress, will fill up this gap in the literary history of the times, it might perhaps be deemed presumption confidently to suppose. All that the editor of it ventures to hint on the subject, is, that it contributes something towards it; and that though this hasty sketch of our metropolis, and this short tour through a part of our kingdom by a foreigner, be far enough from being such an one as he could have wished to have brought forward, and would have brought forward, had there been a choice, it is the only one of the kind of a recent date, that he has happened to see. And though he is aware, that its contents are not of a nature likely to command a very general attention, and certainly not such as a professed book-maker, in the habit of catering for the public taste, would have provided, yet is it not without merit, and merit of a kind particularly entitled to the respect of Englishmen.

Besides the more obvious advantages likely to result from our occasionally listening to the remarks and opinions of other travellers, than those alone of France and our own country, it might not perhaps be without its use sometimes to consult them, if it were only on the score of composition. There is a manner of thinking, and a stile of writing, peculiar to every nation. An Englishman, for instance, would no more think of describing a country, or a people, with the minute prolixity of Germans in general, than he would of criticising a work of taste with the phlegm of a Dutch commentator, or with the elaborate and close precision of an argument on a theological thesis. Yet whilst we thus confine ourselves entirely to our own modes, it is possible we may overlook many little latent improprieties in our writings, to which custom now reconciles us; but which, it is probable, would be apparent to us, by being compared with the similar writings of a different nation. By bringing our writings to this test, we should learn perhaps, that though we do already excel, we may yet be more excellent. That, in general, our books of travels are superior to those of most other people, will be contested by no competent judges; but, it by no means follows, that we have attained the acme of perfection in this species of writing. One glaring error into which our writers of travels, as well as the writers of history, have fallen, the Editor hopes to be pardoned for mentioning; because, as he is neither a traveller, nor an author, he cannot well be suspected of being prompted either by jealousy or by envy. It is no longer sufficient, that a book is instructive and useful, it must also be entertaining: and
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hence books of travels might be named, and histories too, written so much in the manner and character of novels, as actually to have become stock-books on the shelves of circulating libraries. There cannot be a more degrading condescension, than it is for writers of abilities thus meanly to flatter a false taste. From this fault at least, the volume now presented to the public, is exempt. Our German does not deal in the marvellous; neither does he affect to be sentimental. On a fine prospect, it is to be owned, he loves to dwell, and describe, with some degree of rapture; but he does not bewilder either himself or his readers in the faïrey scenes of picturesque beauty. His matter is not always highly important, yet is it never beneath the notice of even a wise man; for though we may perhaps but rarely admire his genius, we cannot but respect his good sense.

Considering to how many richer feasts of the kind we have lately been invited, that some of the first rate geniuses of our age have traversed our kingdom, as it were, on purpose to describe it, and that, as if their own immediate communications were not sufficiently alluring, their works have been still farther set off by all the charms that the elegant art of engraving can give them, it may seem little less than presumption to hope, that the wanderings on foot of a poor, obscure, German pastor, from London into Derbyshire, will attract many readers. It should be remembered, however, that good sense belongs exclusively to no age, profession, or station; and that good sense, when accompanied by good nature, will always be sure to engage attention. Both these qualities our traveller will be found to possess, in no ordinary degree. Even when he is mistaken, he appears to be an intelligent man; and so candid and mild, that even indignities have not provoked him to use a single sharp expression.

The work is said to have been well received at Berlin, and in Germany in general; a circumstance by no means beneath the notice of British readers. For it may deserve to be reflected on, whether this may not be one of the cases, in which Foreigners are as likely to form a fair estimate of a work, as we are. If they are not so well acquainted with the subjects of which it treats, they are also less to be suspected of prejudice. Still, however, it is admitted, that, without any impeachment of their judgments on either side, those parts may be deemed of most value to a German, which an Englishman thinks of the least. To the former, for instance, it may be of some moment to know what reception Foreigners of all descriptions are likely to meet with in England: but what Englishman can be very anxious to know, how the land-lords and land-ladies of low ale-houses deport themselves towards an itinerant Foreigner, of perhaps no very promising appearance? And an attentive observer of human nature, whatever be his country or situation, will not be displeased to see men and things in scenes and circumstances which have hitherto escaped his notice, only, because they are common. If some of the incidents here related be, after all, confessedly insignificant, or even palpably erroneous, still it may not be without use for us to reflect, that were many of our writers of travels, who have justly acquired no ordinary celebrity among us, to be tried and judged of by persons in the countries which they have described, it is more than probable, that many of their accounts of things, which have been admired in England, would there be rejected as frivolous or false. It is obvious to remark, that any opinions formed by an hasty traveller, who tarrieth but a day, must needs be formed at much hazard. When therefore the candid reader may find himself sometimes tempted to smile at the simplicity of this good-natured German, whose hasty opinions of our people and our country could not but be oftentimes crude and inaccurate, let him also be just enough to reflect that such must be the case also with sensible foreigners, when they read our books of travels into other countries.

All that the editor presumes farther to add, is, that the translation is the first performance of the kind of a very young lady; whose name, if it had been thought proper to mention it, would be indifferent to no lover of sound and deep learning, and exemplary piety. It is her pride, and her consolation, to be one of the daughters of a venerable man, who is mentioned with all the respect due to him in the ensuing letters. And, young as she is, this is not the first time she has solicited and obtained British patronage, and British protection. And now, with all the diffidence natural to her sex and her years, she entreats, that this her maiden essay in literature may be received as a tender of her heart-felt gratitude. The editor has revised the translation, which, though far from being servile, or even always literal, he thinks sufficiently faithful. Some little stiffnesses, it is possible, may still remain: but it has been the aim of the translator, without departing from the sense of the author, to express that sense in such a way as she supposed her author would have done, had he been of London, rather than of Berlin. And this aim she seems, in general, very happily to have accomplished.

TRAVELS, &c. &c.

On the Thames, 31st May.

AT length, my dearest Gedike, I find myself safely landed on the happy shores of that country, a sight of which has, for many years, been my most earnest wish; and whither I have so often, in imagination, transported myself. A few hours ago, the green hills of England yet swam imperfectly before our eyes, scarcely perceptible in the distant horizon: they now unfold themselves on either side, forming as it were a double amphitheatre. The sun bursts through the clouds, and gilds alternately the shrubs, and meadows, on the distant shores; and we now espy the tops of two masts of ships just peeping above the surface of the deep. What an awful warning to adventurous men! We now sail close by those very sands, (*the Goodwin*) where so many unfortunate persons have found their graves.

The shores now regularly draw nearer to each other: the danger of the voyage is over; and the season for enjoyment, unembittered by cares, commences. How do we feel ourselves, we, who have long been wandering, as it were, in a boundless space, on having once more gained prospects, that are not without limits! I should imagine, our sensations as somewhat like those of the traveller, who traverses the immeasurable deserts of America, when fortunately he obtains a hut wherein to shelter himself; in those moments he certainly enjoys himself; nor does he then complain of its being too small. It is indeed the lot of man to be always circumscribed to a narrow space; even when he wanders over the most extensive regions; even when the huge sea envelopes him all around, and wraps him close to its bosom, in the act, as it were, of swallowing him up in a moment: still he is separated, from all the circumjacent immensity of space only by one small part, or insignificant portion, of that immensity.

That portion of this space, which I now see surrounding me, is a most delightful selection from the whole of beautiful nature. Here is the Thames full of large and small ships, and boats, dispersed here and there, which are either sailing on with us, or lying at anchor, and there the hills on either side, clad with so soft, and mild a green,



*View of London
(from Greenwich)*

as I have no where else ever seen equalled. The charming banks of the Elbe, which I so lately quitted, are as much surpassed by these shores, as autumn is by spring! I see every where nothing but fertile and cultivated lands; and those living hedges which in England more than in any other country, form the boundaries of the green corn-fields, and give to the whole of the distant country, the appearance of a large and majestic garden. The neat villages and small towns, with sundry intermediate country seats, suggest ideas of prosperity and opulence, which it is not possible to describe.

The prospect towards Gravesend is particularly beautiful. It is a clever little town, built on the side of an hill; about which there lie hill and dale, and meadows, and arable land, intermixed with pleasure grounds and country seats; all diversified in the most agreeable manner. On one of the highest of these hills near Gravesend, stands a wind-mill, which is a very good object, as you see it at some distance, as well as part of the country around it, on the windings of the Thames. But as few human pleasures are ever complete and perfect, we too, amidst the pleasing contemplation of all these beauties, found ourselves exposed, on the quarter-deck, to uncommonly cold and piercing weather. An unintermitting violent shower of rain has driven me into the cabin; where I am now endeavouring to divert a gloomy hour, by giving you the description of a pleasing one.

London, 2d June.

THIS morning those of us who were fellow passengers together in the great cabin, being six in number, requested to be set on shore, in a boat, a little before the vessel got to Dartford, which is still sixteen miles from London. This expedient is generally adopted, instead of going up the Thames, towards London; where, on account of the astonishing number of ships, which are always more crowded together the nearer you approach the city, it frequently requires many days before a ship can finish her passage. He therefore who wishes to lose no time unnecessarily, and wishes also to avoid other inconveniences, such as frequent stoppages, and, perhaps, some alarming dashings against other ships, prefers travelling those few miles by land in a post chaise, which is not very expensive, especially when three join together, as three passengers pay no more than one. This indulgence is allowed by act of parliament.

As we left the vessel we were honoured with a general huzza, or, in the English phrase, with three cheers, echoed from the German sailors of our ship. This nautical style of bidding their friends farewell, our Germans have learned from the English. The cliff where we landed was white and chalky, and as the distance was not great, nor other means of conveyance at hand, we resolved to go on foot to Dartford; immediately on landing we had a pretty steep hill to climb, and, that gained, we arrived at the first English village, where an uncommon neatness in the structure of the houses, which in general are built with red bricks, and flat roofs, struck me with a pleasing surprize, especially when I compared them with the long, rambling, inconvenient, and singularly mean cottages of our peasants. We now continued our way through the different villages, each furnished with his staff; and thus exhibited no remote resemblance of a caravan. Some few people who met us seemed to stare at us, struck, perhaps, by the singularity of our dress, or the peculiarity of our manner of travelling. On our route we passed a wood where a troop of gypsies had taken up their abode, around a fire, under a tree. The country, as we continued to advance, became more and more beautiful. Naturally, perhaps, the earth is every where pretty much alike, but how different is it rendered by art! How different is that on which I

now

now tread from ours, and every other spot I have ever seen. The soil is rich even to exuberance, the verdure of the trees and hedges, in short the whole of this paradisaical region is without a parallel! The roads too are incomparable; I am astonished how they have got them so firm and solid; every step I took I felt, and was conscious, it was English ground on which I trod.

We breakfasted at Dartford. Here, for the first time, I saw an English soldier, in his red uniform, his hair cut short and combed back on his forehead, so as to afford a full view of his fine broad manly face. Here too I first saw (what I deemed a true English sight) in the street, two boys boxing.

Our little party now separated, and got into two post-chaises, each of which hold three persons, though it must be owned three cannot sit quite so commodiously in these chaises as two: the hire of a post chaise is a shilling for every English mile. They may be compared to our extra posts, because they are to be had at all times. But these carriages are very neat and lightly built, so that you hardly perceive their motion, as they roll along these firm smooth roads; they have windows in front, and on both sides. The horses are generally good, and the postillions particularly smart and active, and always ride on a full trot. The one we had, wore his hair cut short, a round hat, and a brown jacket, of tolerable fine cloth, with a nosegay in his bosom. Now and then, when he drove very hard, he looked round, and with a smile seemed to solicit our approbation. A thousand charming spots, and beautiful landscapes, on which my eye would long have dwelt with rapture, were now rapidly passed with the speed of an arrow.

Our road appeared to be undulatory, and our journey, like the journey of life, seemed to be a pretty regular alternation of up hill and down, and here and there it was diversified with copses and woods; the majestic Thames, every now and then, like a little forest of masts, rising to our view, and anon losing itself among the delightful towns and villages. The amazing large signs which, at the entrance of villages, hang in the middle of the street, being fastened to large beams, which are extended across the street from one house to another opposite to it, particularly struck me; these sign posts have the appearance of gates, or of gateways, for which I at first took them, but the whole apparatus, unnecessarily large as it seems to be, is intended for nothing more than to tell the inquisitive traveller, that there is an inn. At length, stunned as it were by this constant rapid succession of interesting objects to engage our attention, we arrived at Greenwich nearly in a state of stupefaction.

The Prospect of London.

WE first descryed it enveloped in a thick smoke, or fog. St. Paul's arose, like some huge mountain, above the enormous mass of smaller buildings. The monument, a very lofty column erected in memory of the great fire of London, exhibited to us, perhaps, chiefly on account of its immense height, apparently so disproportioned to its other dimensions (for it actually struck us as resembling rather a slender mast, towering up in immeasurable height into the clouds, than as what it really is, a stately obelisk) an unusual and singular appearance. Still we went on, and drew nearer and nearer with amazing velocity, and the surrounding objects became every moment more distinct. Westminster abbey, the tower, a steeple, one church, and then another, presented themselves to our view; and we could now plainly distinguish the high round chimnies, on the tops of the houses, which yet seemed to us to form an innumerable number of smaller spires, or steeples.

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The road from Greenwich to London is actually busier, and far more alive, than the most frequented streets in Berlin; at every step we met people on horseback, in carriages, and foot passengers; and every where also, and on each side of the road, well-built and noble houses, whilst all along, at proper distances, the road was lined with lamp posts. One thing in particular struck and surprised me not a little, this was the number of people we met riding and walking with spectacles on, among whom were many who appeared stout, healthy, and young. We were stopped at least three times at barriers or gates, here called turnpikes, to pay a duty or toll which, however small, as being generally paid in their copper coinage, in the end amounted to some shillings.

At length we arrived at the magnificent bridge of Westminster. The prospect from this bridge alone seems to afford one, the epitome of a journey, or a voyage in miniature, as containing something of every thing that mostly occurs on a journey. It is a little assemblage of contrasts and contrarieties. In contrast to the round, modern, and majestic cathedral of St. Paul's, on your right, the venerable, old-fashioned, and hugely noble, long, abbey of Westminster, with its enormous pointed roof, rises on the left. Down the Thames, to the right, you see Blackfriar's bridge, which does not yield much, if at all, in beauty, to that of Westminster: on the left bank of the Thames are delightful terraces, planted with trees, and those new tasteful buildings, called the Adelphi. On the Thames itself are countless swarms of little boats passing and repassing, many with one mast and one sail, and many with none, in which persons of all ranks are carried over. Thus, there is hardly less stir and bustle on this river, than there is in some of its own London's crowded streets. Here, indeed, you no longer see great ships, for they come no farther than London bridge.

We now drove into the city, by Charing-Cross, and along the Strand, to those very Adelphi Buildings, which had just afforded us so charming a prospect, on Westminster bridge.

My two travelling companions, both in the ship and the post chaise, were two young Englishmen, who living in this part of the town, obligingly offered me any assistance and services in their power; and, in particular, to procure me a lodging the same day in their neighbourhood.

In the streets through which we passed, I must own, the houses in general struck me as if they were dark and gloomy; and yet, at the same time, they also struck me as prodigiously great and majestic. At that moment, I could not, in my own mind, compare the external view of London with that of any other city I had ever before seen. But I remember, (and surely, it is singular) that about five years ago, on my first entrance into Leipzig, I had the very same sensations I now felt. It is possible, that the high houses by which the streets at Leipzig are partly darkened, the great number of shops, and the croud of people, such as till then I had never seen, might have some faint resemblance with the scene now surrounding me in London.

There are every where leading from the Strand to the Thames some well-built, lesser, or subordinate streets, of which the Adelphi Buildings are now, by far, the foremost. One district in this neighbourhood goes by the name of York Buildings; and in this lies George-street, where my two travelling companions lived. There reigns in those smaller streets, towards the Thames, so pleasing a calm, compared to the tumult and bustle of people, and carriages, and horses, that are constantly going up and down the Strand, that in going into one of them you can hardly help fancying yourself removed at a distance from the noise of the city, even whilst the noisiest part of it is still so near at hand.

It might be about ten or eleven o'clock when we arrived here. After the two Englishmen had first given me some breakfast at their lodgings, which consisted of tea and bread and butter, they went about with me themselves, in their own neighbourhood, in search of an apartment, which they at length procured for me, for sixteen shillings a week, at the house of a taylor's widow, who lived opposite to them. It was very fortunate, on other accounts, that they went with me, for equipped as I was, having neither brought clean linen, nor change of cloaths from my trunk, I might, perhaps, have found it difficult to obtain good lodgings.

It was a very uncommon but pleasing sensation I experienced, on being now, for the first time in my life, entirely among Englishmen; among people whose language was foreign, their manners foreign, and in a foreign climate, with whom, notwithstanding, I could converse as familiarly as though we had been educated together from our infancy. It is certainly an inestimable advantage to understand the language of the country through which you travel. I did not at first give the people I was with any reason to suspect I could speak English; but I soon found that the more I spoke, the more attention and regard I met with. I now occupy a large room in front, on the ground floor, which has a carpet and mats, and is very neatly furnished; the chairs are covered with leather, and the tables are of mahogany. Adjoining to this I have another large room. I may do just as I please, and keep my own tea, coffee, bread and butter; for which purpose my landlady has given me a cupboard in my room, which locks up.

The family consists of the mistress of the house, her maid, and her two sons, Jacky and Jerry; singular abbreviations for John and Jeremiah. The eldest, Jacky, about twelve years old, is a very lively boy, and often entertains me in the most pleasing manner, by relating to me his different employments at school; and afterwards desiring me in my turn, to relate to him all manner of things about Germany. He repeats his *amo, amas, amavi*, in the same singing tone as our common school-boys. As I happened once when he was by, to hum a lively tune, he stared at me with surprise, and then reminded me it was Sunday; and so, that I might not forfeit his good opinion by any appearance of levity, I gave him to understand, that in the hurry of my journey, I had forgotten the day. He has already shewn me St. James's Park, which is not far from hence; and now let me give you some description of the renowned

St. James's Park.

THE park is nothing more than a semicircle, formed of an alley of trees, which inclose a large green area, in the middle of which is a marshy pond.

The cows feed on this green turf, and their milk is sold here on the spot, quite new.

In all the alleys, or walks, there are benches, where you may rest yourself. When you come through the Horse-Guards (which is provided with several passages) into the Park, on the right hand is St. James's palace, or the king's place of residence, one of the meanest public buildings in London. At the lower end, quite at the extremity, is the queen's palace, an handsome and modern building, but very much resembling a private house. As for the rest, there are generally every where about St. James's Park very good houses, which is a great addition to it. There is also before the semicircle of the trees just mentioned, a large vacant space, where the soldiers are exercised.

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How little this famous park is to be compared with our park at Berlin, I need not mention. And yet one cannot but form an high idea of St. James's Park, and other public places in London; this arises, perhaps, from their having been oftener mentioned in romances and other books than ours have. Even the squares and streets of London are more noted, and better known, than many of our principal towns.

But what again greatly compensates for the mediocrity of this park, is the astonishing number of people who, towards evening, in fine weather, resort here; our finest walks are never so full even in the midst of summer. The exquisite pleasure of mixing freely with such a concourse of people, who are for the most part well dressed and handsome, I have experienced this evening for the first time.

Before I went to the park I took another walk with my little Jacky, which did not cost me much fatigue, and yet was most uncommonly interesting. I went down the little street in which I live to the Thames; nearly at the end of it, towards the left, a few steps led me to a singularly pretty terrace, planted with trees, on the very brink of the river.

Here I had the most delightful prospect you can possibly imagine. Before me was the Thames with all its windings, and the stately arches of its bridges; Westminster with its venerable abbey to the right, to the left again London, with St. Paul's, seemed to wind all along the windings of the Thames; and on the other side of the water lay Southwark, which is now also considered as part of London. Thus, from this single spot, I could nearly, at one view, see the whole city, at least that side of it towards the Thames. Not far from hence, in this charming quarter of the town, lived the renowned Garrick. Depend upon it I shall often visit this delightful walk during my stay in London.

To day my two Englishmen carried me to a neighbouring tavern, or rather an eating-house, where we paid a shilling each for some roast meat, and a salad, giving, at the same time, nearly half as much to the waiter; and yet this is reckoned a cheap house, and a cheap style of living.—But I believe for the future, I shall pretty often dine at home; I have already begun this evening with my supper. I am now sitting by the fire, in my own room in London; the day is nearly at an end, the first I have spent in England, and I hardly know whether I ought to call it only one day, when I reflect what a quick and varied succession of new and striking ideas have, in so short a time, passed in my mind.

London, 5th June.

AT length, dearest Gedike, I am again settled; as I have now got my trunk and all my things from the ship, which arrived only yesterday. Not wishing to have it taken to the Custom-house, which occasions a great deal of trouble, I was obliged to give a douceur to the officers, and those who came on board the ship, to search it. Having pacified, as I thought, one of them with a couple of shillings, another came forward, and protested against the delivery of the trunk upon trust, till I had given him as much; to him succeeded a third; so that it cost me six shillings, which I willingly paid, because it would have cost me still more at the Custom-house.

By the side of the Thames were several porters, one of whom took my huge heavy trunk on his shoulders with astonishing ease; and carried it till I met a hackney-coach. This I hired for two shillings; immediately put the trunk into it, accompanying it myself, without paying any thing extra for my own seat. This is a great advantage in the English hackney-coaches, that you are allowed to take with you whatever you please;

please; for you thus save at least one half of what you must pay to a porter, and besides go with it yourself, and are better accommodated. The observations and the expressions of the common people here, have often struck me as peculiar; they are generally laconic; but always much in earnest, and significant. When I came home, my landlady kindly recommended it to the coachman not to ask more than was just, as I was a foreigner: to which he answered; nay, if he were not a foreigner, I should not overcharge him.

My letters of recommendation to a merchant here, which I could not bring with me on account of my hasty departure from Hamburgh, are also arrived. These have saved me a great deal of trouble in the changing of my money. I can now take my German money back to Germany; and when I return thither myself, refund to the correspondent of the merchant here, the sum which he here pays me in English money. I should otherwise have been obliged to sell my Prussian Frederick's d'or for what they weighed; for some few Dutch dollars, which I was obliged to part with before I got this credit, they only gave me eight shillings.

A foreigner has here nothing to fear from being pressed as a sailor; unless indeed he should be found at any suspicious place. A singular invention for this purpose of pressing, is a ship which is placed on land not far from the Tower, on Tower-hill, furnished with masts and all the appurtenances of a ship. The persons attending this ship promise simple country people, who happen to be standing and staring at it, to shew it to them for a trifle; and as soon as they are in, they are secured as in a trap; and according to circumstances made sailors of, or let go again.

The footway, paved with large stones on both sides of the street, appears to a foreigner exceedingly convenient and pleasant; as one may there walk in perfect safety, in no more danger from the prodigious crowd of carts and coaches, than if one was in one's own room; for no wheel dares come a finger's breadth upon the curb-stone. However, politeness requires you to let a lady, or any one to whom you wish to shew respect, pass, not as we do, always to the right, but on the side next the houses or the wall, whether that happens to be on the right or on the left, being deemed the safest and most convenient. You seldom see a person, of any understanding or common sense, walk in the middle of the streets in London, excepting when they cross over; which at Charing-cross and other places, where several streets meet, is sometimes really dangerous.

It has a strange appearance, especially in the Strand, where there is a constant succession of shop after shop; and where, not unfrequently, people of different trades inhabit the same house, to see their doors, or the tops of their windows, or boards expressly for the purpose, all written over from top to bottom with large painted letters. Every person, of every trade or occupation, who owns ever so small a portion of an house, makes a parade with a sign at his door; and there is hardly a cobbler whose name and profession may not be read in large golden characters by every one that passes. It is here not at all uncommon to see on doors in one continued succession, "children educated here;" "shoes mended here;" "foreign spirituous liquors sold here;" and "funerals furnished here;" of all these inscriptions, I am sorry to observe, that "dealer in foreign spirituous liquors" is by far the most frequent. And indeed it is allowed by the English themselves, that the propensity of the common people to the drinking of brandy or gin is carried to a great excess; and I own it struck me as a peculiar phraseology, when, to tell you that a person is intoxicated or drunk, you hear them say, as they generally do, that he is in liquor. In the late riots, which even yet are hardly quite subsided, and which are still the general topic of conversation,

more people have been found dead near empty brandy-casks in the streets, than were killed by the musket balls of regiments that were called in. As much as I have seen of London within these two days, there are on the whole I think not very many fine streets and very fine houses, but I met every where a far greater number, and handsomer people, than one commonly meets in Berlin. It gives me much real pleasure, when I walk from Charing-cross up the Strand, past St. Paul's to the Royal Exchange, to meet in the thickest crowd persons, from the highest to the lowest ranks, almost all well-looking people, and cleanly and neatly dressed. I rarely see even a fellow with a wheel-barrow, who has not a shirt on, and that too such an one, as shews it has been washed; nor even a beggar without both a shirt, and shoes and stockings. The English are certainly distinguished for cleanliness.

It has a very uncommon appearance in this tumult of people, where every one, with hasty and eager step, seems to be pursuing either his business or his pleasure, and every where making his way through the crowd, to observe, as you often may, people pushing one against another, only perhaps to see a funeral pass. The English coffins are made very economically, according to the exact form of the body; they are flat, and broad at top; tapering gradually from the middle, and drawing to a point at the feet, not very unlike the case of a violin.

A few dirty looking men, who bear the coffin, endeavour to make their way through the crowd as well as they can; and some mourners follow. The people seem to pay as little attention to such a procession, as if a hay cart were driving past. The funerals of people of distinction, and of the great, are, however, differently regarded.

These funerals always appear to me the more indecent in a populous city, from the total indifference of the beholders, and the perfect unconcern with which they are beheld. The body of a fellow-creature is carried to his long home, as though it had been utterly unconnected with the rest of mankind. And yet, in a small town or village, every one knows every one; and no one can be so insignificant as not to be missed when he is taken away.

That same influenza which I left at Berlin, I have had the hard fortune again to find here; and many people die of it. It is as yet very cold for the time of the year, and I am obliged every day to have a fire. I must own, that the heat or warmth given by sea-coal, burnt in the chimney, appears to me softer and milder, than that given by our stoves. The sight of the fire has also a chearful and pleasing effect. Only you must take care not to look at it steadily, and for a continuance, for this is probably the reason that there are so many young old men in England, who walk and ride in the public streets with their spectacles on; thus anticipating, in the bloom of youth, those conveniences and comforts which were intended for old age.

I now constantly dine in my own lodgings; and I cannot but flatter myself, that my meals are regulated with frugality. My usual dish at supper is some pickled salmon, which you eat in the liquor in which it is pickled, along with some oil and vinegar; and he must be prejudiced or fastidious, who does not relish it as singularly well tasted and grateful food.

I would always advise those who wish to drink coffee in England, to mention before hand how many cups are to be made with half an ounce; or else the people will probably bring them a prodigious quantity of brown water; which (notwithstanding all my admonitions) I have not yet been able wholly to avoid. The fine wheaten bread which I find here, besides excellent butter and Cheshire-cheese, makes up for my scanty dinners. For an English dinner, to such lodgers as I am, generally consists of a piece

of half-boiled, or half-roasted meat; and a few cabbage leaves boiled in plain water; on which they pour a sauce made of flour and butter. This, I assure you, is the usual method of dressing vegetables in England.

The slices of bread and butter, which they give you with your tea, are as thin as poppy leaves. But there is another kind of bread and butter usually eaten with tea, which is toasted by the fire, and is incomparably good. You take one slice after the other and hold it to the fire on a fork till the butter is melted, so that it penetrates a number of slices at once: this is called Toast.

The custom of sleeping without a feather-bed for a covering particularly pleased me. You here lie between two sheets: underneath the bottom sheet is a fine blanket, which, without oppressing you, keeps you sufficiently warm. My shoes are not cleaned in the house, but by a person in the neighbourhood, whose trade it is; who fetches them every morning, and brings them back cleaned; for which she receives weekly so much. When the maid is displeased with me, I hear her sometimes at the door call me the German; otherwise in the family I go by the name of the Gentleman.

I have almost entirely laid aside riding in a coach, although it does not cost near so much as it does at Berlin; as I can go and return any distance not exceeding an English mile, for a shilling; for which I should there at least pay a florin. But, moderate as English fares are, still you save a great deal, if you walk or go on foot; and know only how to ask your way. From my lodging to the Royal Exchange, is about as far as from one end of Berlin to the other; and from the Tower and St. Catherine's, where the ships arrive in the Thames, as far again; and I have already walked this distance twice, when I went to look after my trunk, before I got it out of the ship. As it was quite dark when I came back the first evening, I was astonished at the admirable manner in which the streets are lighted up; compared to which our streets in Berlin make a most miserable shew. The lamps are lighted, whilst it is still day-light; and are so near each other, that even on the most ordinary and common nights, the city has the appearance of a festive illumination; for which some German prince, who came to London for the first time, once, they say, actually took it, and seriously believed it to have been particularly ordered, on account of his arrival.

The 9th June, 1782.

I PREACHED this day at the German church, on Ludgate-hill, for the Rev. Mr. Wendeborn. He is the author of "Der statischen Beytrage zur nahern Kenntniss gross Britanniens." This valuable book has already been of uncommon service to me; and I cannot but recommend it to every one who goes to England. It is the more useful, as you can with ease carry it in your pocket; and you find in it information on every subject. It is natural to suppose, that Mr. Wendeborn, who has now been a length of time in England, must have been able more frequently, and with greater exactness to make his observations, than those who only pass through, or make a very short stay. It is almost impossible for any one, who has this book always at hand, to omit any thing worthy of notice in or about London; or not to learn all that is most material to know, of the state and situation of the kingdom in general.

Mr. Wendeborn lives in New Inn, near Temple-bar, in a philosophical, but not unimproving, retirement. He is almost become a native; and his library consists chiefly of English books. Before I proceed, I must just mention, that he has not hired, but bought his apartments in this great building, called New Inn: and this, I believe, is pretty generally the case with the lodgings in this place. A purchaser of

any of these rooms is considered as a proprietor; and one who has got a house and home, and has a right, in parliamentary or other elections, to give his vote, if he is not a foreigner, which is the case with Mr. Wendeborn; who, nevertheless, was visited by Mr. Fox, when he was to be chosen member for Westminster.

I saw, for the first time, at Mr. Wendeborn's, a very useful machine, which is little known in Germany, or at least not much used.

This is a press in which, by means of very strong iron springs, a written paper may be printed on another blank paper, and you thus save yourself the trouble of copying; and at the same time multiply your own hand writing. Mr. Wendeborn makes use of this machine every time he sends manuscripts abroad, of which he wishes to keep a copy. This machine was of mahogany; and cost pretty high. I suppose it is because the inhabitants of London rise so late, that divine service begins only at half past ten o'clock. I missed Mr. Wendeborn this morning, and was therefore obliged to enquire of the door-keeper at St. Paul's for a direction to the German church, where I was to preach. He did not know it. I then asked at another church, not far from thence. Here I was directed right; and after I had passed through an iron-gate to the end of a long passage, I arrived just in time at the church, where, after the sermon, I was obliged to read a public thanksgiving for the safe arrival of our ship. The German clergy here dress exactly the same as the English clergy, *i. e.* in long robes with wide sleeves, in which I likewise was obliged to wrap myself. Mr. Wendeborn wears his own hair, which curls naturally, and the toupee is combed up.

The other German clergymen, whom I have seen, wear wigs, as well as many of the English.

I yesterday waited on our ambassador, count Lucy; and was agreeably surprized at the simplicity of his manner of living. He lives in a small private house. His secretary lives up stairs, where also I met with the Prussian consul, who happened just then to be paying him a visit. Below, on the right hand, I was immediately shewn into his excellency's room, without being obliged to pass through an anti-chamber. He wore a blue-coat with a red collar and red facings. He conversed with me, as we drank a dish of coffee, on various learned topics; and when I told him of the great dispute now going on about the tacismus or stacismus, he declared himself, as a born Greek, for the stacismus. When I came to take my leave, he desired me to come and see him without ceremony, whenever it suited me, as he should be always happy to see me.

Mr. Leonhard, who has translated several celebrated English plays, such as *The School for Scandal*, and some others, lives here as a private person, instructing Germans in English, and Englishmen in German, with great ability. He also it is, who writes the articles concerning England, for the new *Hamburgh newspaper*; for which he is paid a stated yearly stipend. I may add also, that he is the master of a German freemason's lodge in London, and representative of all the German lodges in England; an employment of far more trouble than profit to him: for all the world applies to him in all cases and emergencies. I also was recommended to him from *Hamburgh*. He is a very complaisant man; and has already shewn me many civilities. He repeats English poetry with great propriety; and speaks the language nearly with the same facility as he does his mother language. He is married to an amiable Englishwoman. I wish him all possible happiness. And now let me tell you something of the so often imitated, but perhaps inimitable

Vauxhall.

Vauxhall.

I YESTERDAY visited Vauxhall for the first time. I had not far to go from my lodgings, in the Adelphi-buildings, to Westminster-bridge, where you always find a great number of boats on the Thames, which are ready on the least signal to serve those who will pay them a shilling or sixpence, or according to the distance.

From hence I went up the Thames to Vauxhall, and as I passed along, I saw Lambeth; and the venerable old palace belonging to the archbishops of Canterbury, lying on my left.

Vauxhall is, properly speaking, the name of a little village in which the garden, now almost exclusively bearing the same name, is situated. You pay a shilling on entrance.

On entering it, I really found, or fancied I found, some resemblance to our Berlin Vauxhall, if, according to Virgil, I may be permitted to compare small things with great ones. The walks at least, with the paintings at the end, and the high trees, which, here and there, form a beautiful grove, or wood, on either side, were so similar to those of Berlin, that often, as I walked along them, I seemed to transport myself, in imagination, once more to Berlin, and forgot for a moment, that immense seas and mountains, and kingdoms now lie between us. I was the more tempted to indulge in this reverie, as I actually met with several gentlemen, inhabitants of Berlin; in particular Mr. S***r, and some others, with whom I spent the evening in the most agreeable manner. Here and there (particularly in one of the charming woods which art has formed in this garden) you are pleasingly surprised by the sudden appearance of the statues of the most renowned English poets and philosophers; such as Milton, Thomson, and others. But, what gave me most pleasure, was the statue of the German composer, Handel, which, on entering the garden, is not far distant from the orchestra.

This orchestra is among a number of trees situated as in a little wood, and is an exceedingly handsome one. As you enter the garden, you immediately hear the sound of vocal and instrumental music. There are several female singers constantly hired here to sing in public.

On each side of the orchestra are small boxes, with tables and benches, in which you sup. The walks before these, as well as in every other part of the garden, are crowded with people of all ranks. I supped here with Mr. S***r, and the secretary of the Prussian ambassador; besides a few other gentlemen from Berlin; but what most astonished me was the boldness of the women of the town; who, along with their pimps, often rushed in upon us by half dozens; and in the most shameless manner importuned us for wine, for themselves and their followers. Our gentlemen thought it either unwise, unkind, or unsafe, to refuse them so small a boon altogether.

An Englishman passed our box with hasty steps, and on our acquaintance's asking him, where he was going in such an hurry, he answered with an air of ridiculous importance, which set us all a laughing, "I have lost my girl!" He seemed to make his search, just as if he had been looking for a glove or a stick, which he had accidentally dropt, or forgotten somewhere.

Latish in the evening we were entertained with a sight, that is indeed singularly curious and interesting. In a particular part of the garden a curtain was drawn up, and by means of some mechanism of extraordinary ingenuity, the eye and the ear are so completely deceived, that it is not easy to persuade one's self it is a deception; and that
one

one does not actually see and hear a natural waterfall from an high rock. As every one was flocking to this scene in crowds, there arose all at once a loud cry of "Take care of your pockets." This informed us, but too clearly, that there were some pick-pockets among the crowd, who had already made some fortunate strokes.

The rotunda, a magnificent circular building in the garden, particularly engaged my attention. By means of beautiful chandeliers, and large mirrors, it was illuminated in the most superb manner; and every where decorated with delightful paintings, and statues, in the contemplation of which you may spend several hours very agreeably, when you are tired of the crowd and the bustle, in the walks of the garden.

Among the paintings one represents the surrender of a besieged city. If you look at this painting with attention, for any length of time, it affects you so much that you even shed tears. The expression of the greatest distress, even bordering on despair, on the part of the besieged, the fearful expectation of the uncertain issue, and what the victor will determine concerning those unfortunate people, may all be read so plainly, and so naturally in the countenances of the inhabitants who are imploring for mercy, from the hoary head to the suckling whom his mother holds up, that you quite forget yourself, and in the end scarcely believe it to be a painting before you.

You also here find the busts of the best English authors, placed all round on the sides. Thus a Briton again meets with his Shakespear, Locke, Milton, and Dryden, in the public places of his amusements; and there also reveres their memory. Even the common people thus become familiar with the names of those who have done honour to their nation; and are taught to mention them with veneration. For this rotunda is also an orchestra in which the music is performed in rainy weather.—But enough of Vauxhall!

Certain it is, that the English classical authors are read more generally, beyond all comparison than the German; which in general are read only by the learned; or, at most, by the middle class of people. The English national authors are in all hands, and read by all people, of which the innumerable editions they have gone through, are a sufficient proof.

My landlady, who is only a taylor's widow, reads her Milton; and tells me, that her late husband first fell in love with her, on this very account; because she read Milton with such proper emphasis. This single instance perhaps would prove but little; but I have conversed with several people of the lower class, who all knew their national authors, and who all have read many, if not all of them. This elevates the lower ranks, and brings them nearer to the higher. There is hardly any argument, or dispute in conversation, in the higher ranks, about which the lower cannot also converse or give their opinion. Now in Germany, since Gellert, there has as yet been no poet's name familiar to the people. But the quick sale of the classical authors is here promoted also by cheap and convenient editions. They have them all bound in pocket volumes; as well as in a more pompous style. I myself bought Milton in duodecimo for two shillings, neatly bound; it is such an one as I can, with great convenience, carry in my pocket. It also appears to me to be a good fashion, which prevails here, and here only, that the books, which are most read, are always to be had already well and neatly bound. At stalls, and in the streets, you every now and then meet with a sort of antiquarians, who sell single or odd volumes; sometimes perhaps of Shakespear, &c. so low as a penny; nay even sometimes for an halfpenny a piece. Of one of these itinerant antiquarians I bought the two volumes of the Vicar of Wakefield, for sixpence, *i. e.* for the half of an English shilling. In what estimation our German literature is held in England, I was enabled to judge, in some degree, by the printed

printed proposals of a book which I saw. The title was, "the Entertaining Museum, or Complete Circulating Library," which is to contain a list of all the English classical authors, as well as translations of the best French, Spanish, Italian, and even German novels.

The moderate price of this book deserves also to be noticed; as by such means books in England come more within the reach of the people; and of course are more generally distributed among them. The advertisement mentions, that in order that every one may have it in his power to buy this work, and at once to furnish himself with a very valuable library, without perceiving the expence, a number will be sent out weekly, which, stitched, costs six-pence, and bound with the title on the back, nine-pence. The twenty-fifth and twenty-sixth numbers contain the first and second volume of the Vicar of Wakefield, which I had just bought of the antiquarian above mentioned.

The only translation from the German which has been particularly successful in England, is "Gefner's Death of Abel." The translation of that work has been oftener reprinted in England than ever the original was in Germany. I have actually seen the eighteenth edition of it; and if the English preface is to be regarded, it was written by a lady. "Klopstock's Messiah," as is well known, has been here but ill received; to be sure, they say it is but indifferently translated. I have not yet been able to obtain a sight of it. The Rev. Mr. Wendeborn has written a grammar for the German language in English, for the use of Englishmen, which has met with much applause. I must not forget to mention, that the works of Mr. Jacob Boehmen are all translated into English.

London, 1st June

OFTEN as I had heard Ranelagh spoken of, I had yet formed only an imperfect idea of it. I supposed it to be a garden somewhat different from that of Vauxhall; but, in fact, I hardly knew what I thought of it. Yesterday evening I took a walk in order to visit this famous place of amusement; but I missed my way, and got to Chelsea; where I met a man with a wheelbarrow, who not only very civilly shewed me the right road, but also conversed with me the whole of the distance which we walked together. And finding, upon enquiry, that I was a subject of the king of Prussia, he desired me, with much eagerness, to relate to him some anecdotes concerning that mighty monarch.

At length I arrived at Ranelagh; and having paid my half-crown on entrance, I soon enquired for the garden door, and it was readily shewn to me; when, to my infinite astonishment, I found myself in a poor, mean-looking, and ill-lighted garden, where I met but few people. I had not been here long before I was accosted by a young lady, who also was walking there, and who, without ceremony, offered me her arm, asking me why I walked thus solitarily? I now concluded, this could not possibly be the splendid, much-boasted Ranelagh; and so, seeing not far from me a number of people entering a door, I followed them, in hopes either to get out again, or to vary the scene.

But it is impossible to describe, or indeed to conceive, the effect it had on me, when, coming out of the gloom of the garden, I suddenly entered a round building, illuminated by many hundred lamps; the splendor and beauty of which surpassed every thing of the kind I had ever seen before. Every thing seemed here to be round; above, there was a gallery divided into boxes; and in one part of it an organ with a
beautiful

beautiful choir, from which issued both instrumental and vocal music. All around, under this gallery, are handsome painted boxes for those who wish to take refreshments: the floor was covered with mats, in the middle of which are four high black pillars; within which there are neat fire-places for preparing tea, coffee, and punch; and all around also there are placed tables, set out with all kinds of refreshments. Within these four pillars, in a kind of magic rotundo, all the beau-monde of London move perpetually round and round.

I at first mixed with this immense concourse of people, of all sexes, ages, countries, and characters; and I must confess, that the incessant change of faces, the far greater number of which were strikingly beautiful, together with the illumination, the extent and majestic splendor of the place, with the continued sound of the music, makes an inconceivably delightful impression on the imagination; and I take the liberty to add, that, on seeing it now for the first time, I felt pretty nearly the same sensations that I remember to have felt, when, in early youth, I first read the *Fairy Tales*.

Being, however, at length tired of the crowd, and being tired also with always moving round and round in a circle, I sat myself down in one of the boxes, in order to take some refreshment, and was now contemplating at my ease this prodigious collection and crowd of an happy, chearful world, who were here enjoying themselves devoid of care, when a waiter very civilly asked me what refreshment I wished to have, and in a few moments returned with what I asked for. To my astonishment he would accept no money for these refreshments; which I could not comprehend, till he told me that every thing was included in the half-crown I had paid at the door; and that I had only to command if I wished for any thing more; but that if I pleased, I might give him as a present a trifling *douceur*. This I gave him with pleasure, as I could not help fancying, I was hardly entitled to so much civility and good attention for one single half-crown.

I now went up into the gallery, and seated myself in one of the boxes there; and from thence becoming all at once a grave and moralizing spectator, I looked down on the concourse of people who were still moving round and round in the fairy circle; and then I could easily distinguish several stars and other orders of knighthood; French queues and bags contrasted with plain English heads of hair, or professional wigs; old age and youth, nobility and commonalty, all passing each other in the motley swarm. An Englishman who joined me during this my reverie, pointed out to me on my enquiring, princes and lords with their dazzling stars; with which they eclipsed the less brilliant part of the company.

Here some moved round in an eternal circle to see and be seen; there a groupe of eager connoisseurs had placed themselves before the orchestra, and were feasting their ears, while others at the well supplied tables, were regaling the parched roofs of their mouths in a more substantial manner, and again others like myself were sitting alone, in the corner of a box in the gallery, making their remarks and reflections on so interesting a scene.

I now and then indulged myself in the pleasure of exchanging, for some minutes, all this magnificence and splendor for the gloom of the garden, in order to renew the pleasing surprize I experienced on my first entering the building. Thus I spent here some hours in the night, in a continual variation of entertainment; when the crowd now all at once began to lessen, and I also took a coach and drove home.

At Ranelagh the company appeared to me much better, and more select than at Vauxhall; for those of the lower class who go there, always dress themselves in their best,

and thus endeavour to copy the great. Here I saw no one who had not silk stockings on. Even the poorest families are at the expence of a coach to go to Ranelagh, as my landlady assured me. She always fixed on some one day in the year, on which, without fail, she drove to Ranelagh. On the whole the expence at Ranelagh is nothing near so great as it is at Vauxhall, if you consider the refreshments; for any one who sups at Vauxhall, which most people do, is likely, for a very moderate supper, to pay at least half-a-guinea.

The Parliament.

I HAD almost forgotten to tell you, that I have already been to the Parliament House; and yet this is of most importance. For, had I seen nothing else in England but this, I should have thought my journey thither amply rewarded.

As little as I have hitherto troubled myself with politics, because indeed with us it is but little worth our while, I was however desirous of being present at a meeting of parliament; a wish that was soon amply gratified.

One afternoon, about three o'clock, at which hour, or thereabouts, the house most commonly meets, I enquired for Westminster hall, and was very politely directed by an Englishman. These directions are always given with the utmost kindness. You may ask whom you please if you can only make yourself tolerably well understood; and by thus asking every now and then, you may with the greatest ease find your way throughout all London.

Westminster hall is an enormous Gothic building, whose vaulted roof is supported, not by pillars, but instead of these there are, on each side, large unnatural heads of angels, carved in wood, which seem to support the roof.

When you have passed through this long hall, you ascend a few steps at the end, and are led through a dark passage into the House of Commons, which, below, has a large double door; and above, there is a small stair-case, by which you go to the gallery, the place allotted for strangers.

The first time I went up this small stair-case, and had reached the rails, I saw a very genteel man in black standing there. I accosted him without any introduction, and I asked him whether I might be allowed to go into the gallery. He told me that I must be introduced by a member, or else I could not get admission there. Now as I had not the honour to be acquainted with a member, I was under the mortifying necessity of retreating, and again going down stairs, as I did much chagrined. And now, as I was fullenly marching back, I heard something said about a bottle of wine, which seemed to be addressed to me. I could not conceive what it could mean, till I got home, when my obliging landlady told me, I should have given the well-dressed man half-a-crown, or a couple of shillings for a bottle of wine. Happy in this information, I went again the next day; when the same man who before had sent me away, after I had given him only two shillings, very politely opened the door for me, and himself recommended me to a good seat in the gallery.

And thus I now, for the first time, saw the whole of the British nation assembled in its representatives, in rather a mean-looking building, that not a little resembles a chapel. The Speaker, an elderly man, with an enormous wig, with two knotted kind of tresses, or curls behind, in a black cloak, his hat on his head, sat opposite to me on a lofty chair; which was not unlike a small pulpit, save only that in the front of this there was no reading desk. Before the Speaker's chair stands a table, which looks like an altar; and at this there sit two men, called clerks, dressed in black, with black

cloaks. On the table, by the side of the great parchment acts, lies an huge gilt sceptre, which is always taken away, and placed in a conservatory under the table, as soon as ever the Speaker quits the chair; which he does as often as the house resolves itself into a committee. A committee means nothing more than that the house puts itself into a situation freely to discuss and debate any point of difficulty and moment, and, while it lasts, the Speaker partly lays aside his power as a legislator. As soon as this is over, some one tells the Speaker that he may now again be seated! and immediately on the Speaker being again in the chair, the sceptre is also replaced on the table before him.

All round on the sides of the house, under the gallery, are benches for the members, covered with green cloth, always one above the other, like our choirs in churches; in order that he who is speaking may see over those who sit before him. The seats in the gallery are on the same plan. The members of parliament keep their hats on, but the spectators in the gallery are uncovered.

The members of the House of Commons have nothing particular in their dress; they even come into the house in their great coats, and with boots and spurs. It is not at all uncommon to see a member lying stretched out on one of the benches while others are debating. Some crack nuts, others eat oranges, or whatever else is in season. There is no end to their going in and out; and as often as any one wishes to go out, he places himself before the Speaker, and makes him his bow, as if, like a school-boy, he asked his tutor's permission.

Those who speak, seem to deliver themselves with but little, perhaps not always with even a decorous, gravity. All that is necessary, is to stand up in your place, take off your hat, turn to the Speaker (to whom all the speeches are addressed), to hold your hat and stick in one hand, and with the other to make any such motions as you fancy necessary to accompany your speech.

If it happens that a member rises who is but a bad speaker; or if what he says is generally deemed not sufficiently interesting, so much noise is made, and such bursts of laughter are raised, that the member who is speaking can scarcely distinguish his own words. This must needs be a distressing situation; and it seems then to be particularly laughable, when the Speaker in his chair, like a tutor in a school, again and again endeavours to restore order, which he does by calling out *to order, to order*; apparently often without much attention being paid to it.

On the contrary, when a favourite member, and one who speaks well and to the purpose, rises, the most perfect silence reigns; and his friends and admirers, one after another, make their approbation known by calling out, *hear him*; which is often repeated by the whole house at once; and in this way so much noise is often made, that the Speaker is frequently interrupted by this same emphatic *hear him*. Notwithstanding which, this calling out is always regarded as a great encouragement; and I have often observed that one who began with some diffidence, and even somewhat inauspiciously, has in the end been so animated, that he has spoken with a torrent of eloquence.

As all speeches are directed to the Speaker, all the members always preface their speeches with *sir*; and he, on being thus addressed, generally moves his hat a little, but immediately puts it on again. This *sir* is often introduced in the course of their speeches, and serves to connect what is said; it seems also to stand the orator in some stead, when any one's memory fails him, or he is otherwise at a loss for matter. For while he is saying *sir*, and has thus obtained a little pause, he recollects what is to follow. Yet I have sometimes seen some members draw a kind of memorandum-book out of their

their pockets, like a candidate, who is at a loss in his sermon; this is the only instance in which a member of the British parliament seems to read his speeches.

The first day that I was at the House of Commons, an English gentleman who sat next to me in the gallery, very obligingly pointed out to me the principal members, such as Fox, Burke, Rigby, &c. all of whom I heard speak. The debate happened to be whether, besides being made a peer, any other specific reward should be bestowed by the nation on their gallant admiral Rodney. In the course of the debate, I remember, Mr. Fox was very sharply reprimanded by young lord Fielding, for having, when minister, opposed the election of admiral Hood, as a member for Westminster.

Fox was sitting to the right of the speaker, not far from the table on which the gilt sceptre lay. He now took his place so near it that he could reach it with his hand, and, thus placed, he gave it many a violent and hearty thump, either to aid, or to shew the energy with which he spoke. If the charge was vehement, his defence was no less so: he justified himself against lord Fielding, by maintaining, that he had not opposed this election in the character of a minister, but as an individual, or private person: and that, as such, he had freely and honestly given his vote for another, namely for sir Cecil Wray; adding, that the king when he appointed him secretary of state, had entered into no agreement with him, by which he lost his vote as an individual: to such a requisition he never would have submitted. It is impossible for me to describe, with what fire, and persuasive eloquence he spoke, and how the speaker in the chair incessantly nodded approbation from beneath his solemn wig; and innumerable voices incessantly called out, hear him! hear him! and when there was the least sign that he intended to leave off speaking, they no less vociferously exclaimed, go on; and so he continued to speak in this manner for nearly two hours. Mr. Rigby in reply, made a short but humorous speech, in which he mentioned of how little consequence the title of lord and lady was without money to support it, and finished with the Latin proverb, "*infelix paupertas,—quia ridiculos miseros facit.*" After having first very judiciously observed, that previous enquiry should be made, whether admiral Rodney had made any rich prizes or captures; because, if that should be the case, he would not stand in need of further reward in money. I have since been almost every day at the parliament house; and prefer the entertainment I there meet with, to most other amusements.

Fox is still much beloved by the people, notwithstanding that they are, (and certainly with good reason) displeased at his being the cause of admiral Rodney's recall; though even I have heard him again and again, almost extravagant in his encomiums on this noble admiral. The same celebrated Charles Fox is a short, fat, and gross man, with a swarthy complexion, and dark; and in general he is badly dressed. There certainly is something Jewish in his looks. But upon the whole, he is not an ill-made nor an ill-looking man: and there are many strong marks of sagacity and fire in his eyes. I have frequently heard the people here say, that this same Mr. Fox is as cunning as a fox. Burke is a well made, tall, upright man, but looks elderly and broken. Rigby is excessively corpulent, and has a jolly rubicund face.

The little less than downright open abuse, and the many really rude things which the members said to each other, struck me much. For example, when one has finished, another rises, and immediately taxes with absurdity all that the right honourable gentleman, (for with this title the members of the House of Commons always honour each other) had just advanced. It would indeed be contrary to the rules of the house, flatly to tell each other that what they have spoken is *false*, or even *foolish*: instead of this, they turn themselves, as usual, to the Speaker, and so, whilst their address is directed to him, they fancy they violate neither the rules of parliament, nor those of good-

breeding and decorum, whilst they utter the most cutting personal farcasms against the member, or the measure they oppose.

It is quite laughable to see, as one sometimes does, one member speaking, and another accompanying the speech with his action. This I remarked more than once in a worthy old citizen, who was fearful of speaking himself, but when his neighbour spoke, he accompanied every energetic sentence with a suitable gesticulation, by which means his whole body was sometimes in motion.

It often happens that the jett, or principal point, in the debate, is lost in these personal contests and bickerings between each other. When they last so long as to become quite tedious and tiresome, and likely to do harm rather than good, the house takes upon itself to express its disapprobation; and then there arises a general cry, of the question! the question! This must sometimes be frequently repeated, as the contending members are both anxious to have the last word. At length however the question is put, and the votes taken; when the Speaker says: "those who are for the question, are to say *aye*, and those who are against it, *no*!" You then hear a confused cry of *aye* and *no*: but at length the Speaker says: "I think there are more *ayes* than *noes*, or more *noes* than *ayes*. The *ayes* have it; or the *noes* have it!" as the case may be. But all the spectators must then retire from the gallery: for then, and not till then, the voting really commences. And now the members call aloud to the gallery, withdraw! withdraw! On this the strangers withdraw; and are shut up in a small room, at the foot of the stairs till the voting is over, when they are again permitted to take their places in the gallery. Here I could not help wondering at the impatience even of polished Englishmen; it is astonishing with what violence and even rudeness, they push and jostle one another, as soon as the room door is again opened; eager to gain the first and best seats in the gallery. In this manner we, the strangers, have sometimes been sent away two or three times in the course of one day, or rather evening; afterwards again permitted to return. Among these spectators are people of all ranks; and even, not unfrequently, ladies. Two short-hand writers have sat sometimes not far distant from me, who (though it is rather by stealth) endeavour to take down the words of the speaker; and thus all that is very remarkable in what is said in parliament, may generally be read in print the next day. The short-hand writers, whom I noticed, are supposed to be employed and paid by the editors of the different newspapers. There are, it seems, some few persons who are constant attendants on the parliament; and so they pay the door-keeper beforehand a guinea for a whole session. I have now and then seen some of the members bring their sons, whilst quite little boys, and carry them to their seats along with themselves.

A proposal was once made to erect a gallery in the house of peers also, for the accommodation of spectators. But this never was carried into effect. There appears to be much more politeness and more courteous behaviour in the members of the upper house. But he who wishes to observe mankind, and to contemplate the leading traits of the different characters most strongly marked, will do well to attend frequently the lower, rather than the other, house.

Last Tuesday was (what is here called) hanging-day. There was also a parliamentary election: I could only see one of the two fights; and therefore naturally preferred the latter, while I only heard tolling at a distance the death-bell of the sacrifice to justice. I now therefore am going to describe to you, as well as I can, an

Election for a Member of Parliament.

THE cities of London and Westminster send, the one four, and the other two members to Parliament, Mr. Fox is one of the two members for Westminster; one seat was vacant, and that vacancy was now to be filled. And the same Sir Cecil Wray, whom Fox had before opposed to Lord Hood, was now publicly chosen. They tell me that at these elections, when there is a strong opposition-party, there is often bloody work; but this election was, in the electioneering phrase, a "hollow thing," i. e. quite sure; as those who had voted for Admiral Hood now withdrew, without standing a poll; as being convinced beforehand, their chance to succeed was desperate.

The election was held in Covent-garden, a large market-place, in the open air. There was a scaffold erected just before the door of a very handsome church, which is also called St. Paul's; but which however is not to be compared to the cathedral.

A temporary edifice, formed only of boards and wood nailed together, was erected on the occasion. It was called the hustings, and filled with benches; and at one end of it, where the benches ended, mats were laid; on which those who spoke to the people, stood. In the area before the hustings, immense multitudes of people were assembled; of whom the greatest part seemed to be of the lowest order. To this tumultuous crowd, however, the speakers often bowed very low, and always addressed them by the title of gentlemen. Sir Cecil Wray was obliged to step forward and promise these same gentlemen, with hand and heart, that he would faithfully fulfil his duties, as their representative. He also made an apology, because, on account of his long journey, and ill health, he had not been able to wait on them, as became him, at their respective houses. The moment that he began to speak even this rude rabble became all as quiet as the raging sea after a storm; only every now and then rending the air with the parliamentary cry of *hear him! hear him!* and as soon as he had done speaking, they again vociferated aloud an universal huzza, every one, at the same time, waving his hat.

And now, being formally declared to have been legally chosen, he again bowed most profoundly, and returned thanks for the great honour done him: when a well-dressed man, whose name I could not learn, stepped forward, and in a well indited speech congratulated both the chosen and the chusers. "Upon my word," said a gruff carter, who stood near me, "that man speaks well."

Even little boys clambered up and hung on the rails and on the lamp-posts; and as if the speeches had also been addressed to them, they too listened with the utmost attention: and they too testified their approbation of it, by joining lustily in the three cheers, and waving their hats.

All the enthusiasm of my earliest years, kindled by the patriotism of the illustrious heroes of Rome, Coriolanus, Julius Cæsar, and Antony, were now revived in my mind: and though all I had just seen and heard, be, in fact, but the semblance of liberty, and that too tribunitian liberty, yet at that moment, I thought it charming, and it warmed my heart. Yes, depend on it, my friend, when you here see how, in this happy country, the lowest and meanest member of society, thus unequivocally testifies the interest which he takes in every thing of a public nature; when you see, how even women and children bear a part in the great concerns of their country; in short, how high and low, rich and poor, all concur in declaring their feelings and their convictions, that a carter, a common tar, or a scavenger, is still a man, nay, an Englishman; and as such has his rights and privileges defined and known as exactly and as well as his king, or as his king's minister—take my word for it, you will feel
yourself

yourself very differently affected from what you are, when staring at our soldiers in their exercises at Berlin.

When Fox, who was among the voters, arrived at the beginning of the election, he too was received with an universal shout of joy. At length, when it was nearly over, the people took it into their heads to hear him speak, and every one called out Fox! Fox! I know not why, but I seemed to catch some of the spirit of the place and time; and so I also bawled Fox! Fox! and he was obliged to come forward and speak; for no other reason that I could find, but that the people wished to hear him speak. In this speech he again confirmed, in the presence of the people, his former declaration in parliament, that he by no means had any influence as minister of state in this election, but only and merely as a private person.

When the whole was over, the rampant spirit of liberty, and the wild impatience of a genuine English mob, were exhibited in perfection. In a very few minutes the whole scaffolding, benches, and chairs, and every thing else, was completely destroyed; and the mat with which it had been covered torn into ten thousand long strips or pieces, or strings, with which they encircled or enclosed multitudes of people of all ranks. These they hurried along with them, and every thing else that came in their way, as trophies of joy; and thus, in the midst of exultation and triumph, they paraded through many of the most populous streets of London.

Whilst in Prussia, poets only speak of the love of country as one of the dearest of all human affections, here there is no man who does not feel, and describe with rapture, how much he loves his country. "Yes, for my country I'll shed the last drop of my blood!" often exclaims little Jacky, the fine boy here in the house where I live, who is yet only about twelve years old. The love of their country, and its unparalleled feats in war, are, in general, the subject of their ballads and popular songs, which are sung about the streets by women, who sell them for a few farthings. It was only the other day our Jacky brought one home, in which the history of an admiral was celebrated, who bravely continued to command, even after his two legs were shot off, and he was obliged to be supported. I know not well by what means it has happened, that the king of England, who is certainly one of the best the nation ever had, is become unpopular. I know not how many times I have heard people of all sorts object to their king, at the same time that they praised the king of Prussia to the skies. Indeed, with some, the veneration for our monarch went so far, that they seriously wished he was their king. All that seems to shock and dishearten them, is the prodigious armies he keeps up, and the immense number of soldiers quartered in Berlin alone. Whereas in London, at least in the city, not a single troop of soldiers of the king's guard, dare make their appearance.

A few days ago I saw (what is here deemed a great sight, viz.) a lord-mayor's procession. The lord mayor was in an enormous large gilt coach, which was followed by an astonishing number of most shewy carriages, in which the rest of the city magistrates, more properly called aldermen of London, were seated.—But enough for the present.

London, June 17th, 1782.

I HAVE now been pretty nearly all over London, and, according to my own notions, have now seen most of the things I was most anxious to see. Hereafter then, I propose to make an excursion into the country; and this purpose, by the blessing of God, I hope to be able to carry into effect in a very few days, for my curiosity is here almost

almost fatiated. I seem to be tired and sick of the smoke of these sea-coal fires, and I long, with almost childish impatience, once more to breathe a fresher and clearer air.

It must, I think, be owned, that upon the whole, London is neither so handsomely nor so well built as Berlin is, but then it certainly has far more fine squares. Of these there are many that in real magnificence, and beautiful symmetry, far surpass our Gens d'Armes Markt, our Denhofchen, and Williams Place. The squares or quadrangular places, contain the best and most beautiful buildings of London; a spacious street, next to the houses, goes all round them, and within that there is generally a round grass-plot, railed in with iron rails, in the centre of which, in many of them, there is a statue, which statues most commonly are equestrian and gilt. In Grosvenor-square, instead of this green plot, or area, there is a little circular wood, intended, no doubt, to give one the idea of *rus in urbe*.

One of the longest and pleafantest walks I have yet taken is from Paddington to Islington; where to the left you have a fine prospect of the neighbouring hills, and in particular of the village of Hampstead, which is built on one of them; and to the right the streets of London furnish an endless variety of interesting views. It is true, that it is dangerous to walk here alone, especially in the afternoon, and in an evening, or at night; for it was only last week that a man was robbed and murdered on this very same road.—But I now hasten to another and a more pleasing topic:

The British Museum.

I HAVE had the happiness to become acquainted with the Rev. Mr. Woide; who, though well known all over Europe, to be one of the most learned men of the age, is yet, if possible, less estimable for his learning, than he is for his unaffected goodness of heart. He holds a respectable office in the Museum, and was obliging enough to procure me permission to see it, luckily the day before it was shut up. In general you must give in your name a fortnight before you can be admitted. But after all, I am sorry to say, it was the rooms, the glass cases, the shelves, or the repository for the books in the British Museum which I saw, and not the Museum itself, we were hurried on so rapidly through the apartments. The company, who saw it when and as I did, was various, and some of all sorts; some, I believe, of the very lowest classes of the people, of both sexes; for, as it is the property of the nation, every one has the same right (I use the term of the country) to see it that another has. I had Mr. Wendeborn's book in my pocket, and it, at least, enabled me to take a somewhat more particular notice of some of the principal things; such as the Egyptian mummy, an head of Homer, &c. The rest of the company, observing that I had some assistance which they had not, soon gathered round me; I pointed out to them as we went along, from Mr. Wendeborn's German book, what there was most worth seeing here. The gentleman who conducted us, took little pains to conceal the contempt which he felt for my communications, when he found out that it was only a German description of the British Museum I had got. The rapidly passing through this vast suite of rooms, in a space of time little, if at all, exceeding an hour; with leisure just to cast one poor longing look of astonishment on all these stupendous treasures of natural curiosities, antiquities, and literature; in the contemplation of which you could with pleasure spend years, and a whole life might be employed in the study of them—quite confuses, stuns, and overpowers one. In some branches this collection is said to be far surpassed by some others; but taken altogether, and for size, it certainly is equalled by none.

The

The few foreign divines who travel through England, generally desire to have the Alexandrian manuscript shewn them, in order to be convinced with their own eyes, whether the passage, "These are the three that bear record, &c." is to be found there or not.

The Rev. Mr. Woide lives at a place called Liffon-street, not far from Paddington; a very village-looking little town, at the west end of London. It is quite a rural and pleasant situation; for here I either do, or fancy I do, already breathe a purer and freer air than in the midst of the town. Of his great abilities, and particularly in oriental literature, I need not inform you; but it will give you pleasure to hear that he is actually meditating a fac-simile edition of the Alexandrian MS. I have already mentioned the infinite obligations I lie under to this excellent man for his extraordinary courtesy and kindness.

The Theatre in the Hay-market.

LAST week I went twice to an English play-house. The first time "The Nabob" was represented, of which the late Mr. Foote was the author, and for the entertainment, a very pleasing and laughable musical farce, called "The Agreeable Suprize;" the second time I saw "The English Merchant;" which piece has been translated into German, and is known among us by the title of "The Scotchwoman," or "The Coffee-house." I have not yet seen the theatres of Covent-garden and Drury-lane, because they are not open in summer. The best actors also usually spend May and October in the country, and only perform in winter.

A very few excepted, the comedians whom I saw were certainly nothing extraordinary. For a seat in the boxes you pay five shillings, in the pit three, in the first gallery two, and in the second or upper gallery, one shilling. And it is the tenants in this upper gallery who, for their shilling, make all that noise and uproar for which the English play-houses are so famous. I was in the pit, which gradually rises, amphitheatre-wise, from the orchestra, and is furnished with benches, one above another, from the top to the bottom. Often and often, whilst I sat here, did a rotten orange, or pieces of the peel of an orange, fly past me, or past some of my neighbours, and once one of them actually hit my hat, without my daring to look round, for fear another might then hit me on my face.

All over London as one walks, one every where, in the season, sees oranges to sell; and they are in general sold tolerably cheap, one and even sometimes two for a half-penny; or in our money, three-pence. At the play-house, however, they charged me six-pence for one orange, and that noways remarkably good.

Besides this perpetual pelting from the gallery, which renders an English play house so uncomfortable, there is no end to their calling out and knocking with their sticks, till the curtain is drawn up. I saw a miller's, or a baker's boy, thus, like a huge booby, leaning over the rails and knocking again and again on the outside, with all his might, so that he was seen by every body, without being in the least ashamed or abashed. I sometimes heard too the people in the lower or middle gallery quarrelling with those of the upper one. Behind me, in the pit, sat a young fop, who, in order to display his costly stone-buckles with the utmost brilliancy, continually put his foot on my bench, and even sometimes upon my coat, which I could avoid only by sparing him as much space from my portion of the seat, as would make him a foot-stool.

In the boxes, quite in a corner, sat several servants, who were said to be placed there to keep the seats for the families they served, till they should arrive; they seemed to sit remarkably close and still, the reason of which, I was told, was their apprehension of being pelted; for if one of them dares but to look out of the box, he is immediately saluted with a shower of orange peel from the gallery.

In Foote's Nabob there are sundry local and personal satires, which are entirely lost to a foreigner. The character of the Nabob was performed by a Mr. Palmer. The jett of the character is, this Nabob with many affected airs and constant aims at gentility, is still but a silly fellow, unexpectedly come into the possession of immense riches, and therefore, of course, paid much court to by a society of natural philosophers, quakers, and I do not know who besides. Being tempted to become one of their members, he is elected; and in order to ridicule these would-be philosophers, but real knaves, a fine flowery fustian speech is put into his mouth, which he delivers with prodigious pomp and importance, and is listened to by the philosophers with infinite complacency. The two scenes of the quakers and philosophers, who with countenances full of imaginary importance were seated at a green table with their president at their head, while the secretary with the utmost care was making an inventory of the ridiculous presents of the Nabob, were truly laughable. One of the last scenes was best received: It is that in which the Nabob's friend and school-fellow visit him, and address him without ceremony by his christian name; but to all their questions of "Whether he does not recollect them? Whether he does not remember such and such a play; or such and such a scrape into which they had fallen in their youth?" He uniformly answers with a look of ineffable contempt, only, "No sir!" Nothing can possibly be more ludicrous, nor more comic.

The entertainment, *The Agreeable Surprise*, is really a very diverting farce. I observed that, in England also, they represent school-masters in ridiculous characters on the stage; which though I am sorry for, I own I do not wonder at, as the pedantry of school-masters in England, they tell me, is carried at least as far as it is elsewhere. The same person who, in the play, performed the school-fellow of the Nabob with a great deal of nature and original humour, here acted the part of the school-master: his name is Edwin, and he is, without doubt, one of the best actors of all that I have seen.

This school-master is in love with a certain country girl, whose name is Cowslip, to whom he makes a declaration of his passion in a strange mythological, grammatical stile and manner, and to whom, among other fooleries, he sings, quite enraptured, the following air, and seems to work himself at least up to such a transport of passion, as quite over-powers him. He begins, you will observe, with the conjugation, and ends with the declensions and the genders; the whole is inimitably droll:

"Amo, amas,
"I love a lass,
"She is so sweet and tender,
"It is sweet Cowslip's Grace
"In the Nominative Case,
"And in the feminine Gender."

Those two sentences in particular, in the Nominative Case, and in the Feminine Gender, he affects to sing in a particularly languishing air, as if confident that it was irresistible. This Edwin, in all his comic characters, still preserves something so inexpressibly good tempered in his countenance, that notwithstanding all his burlesques, and

even grotesque buffoonery, you cannot but be pleased with him. I own, I felt myself doubly interested for every character which he represented. Nothing could equal the tone and countenance of self-satisfaction, with which he answered one who asked him whether he was a scholar? "Why, I was a master of scholars." A Mrs. Webb represented a cheesemonger, and played the part of a woman of the lower class, so naturally, as I have no where else ever seen equalled. Her huge, fat, and lusty carcase, and the whole of her external appearance seemed quite to be cut out for it.

Poor Edwin was obliged, as school-master, to sing himself almost hoarse, as he sometimes was called on to repeat his declension and conjugation-songs, two or three times, only because it pleased the upper gallery, or the gods, as the English call them, to roar out encore! Add to all this, he was farther forced to thank them with a low bow for the great honour done him by their applause.

One of the highest comic touches in the piece seemed to me to consist in a lye, which always became more and more enormous in the mouths of those who told it again, during the whole of the piece. This kept the audience in almost a continual fit of laughter. This farce is not yet printed, or I really think I should be tempted to venture to make a translation, or rather an imitation of it.

"The English Merchant, or the Scotchwoman," I have seen much better performed abroad than it was here. Mr. Fleck, at Hamburg, in particular, played the part of The English Merchant with more interest, truth and propriety, than one Aickin did here. He seemed to me to fail totally in expressing the peculiar and original character of Freeport; instead of which, by his measured step and deliberate, affected manner of speaking, he converted him into a mere fine gentleman.

The trusty old servant, who wishes to give up his life for his master, he too had the stately walk, or strut, of a minister. The character of the Newspaper Writer was performed by the same Mr. Palmer, who acted the part of the Nabob; but every one said, what I thought, that he made him far too much of a gentleman. His person and his dress also were too handsome for the character.

The character of Amelia was performed by an actress, who made her first appearance on the stage, and from a timidity, natural on such an occasion, and not unbecoming, spoke rather low, so that she could not every where be heard; "Speak louder! speak louder!" cried out some rude fellow from the upper gallery, and she immediately, with infinite condescension, did all she could, and not unsuccessfully, to please even an upper gallery critic.

The persons near me, in the pit, were often extravagantly lavish of their applause. They sometimes clapped a single solitary sentiment, that was almost as unmeaning as it was short, if it happened to be pronounced only with some little emphasis, or to contain some little point, some popular doctrine, a singularly pathetic stroke, or turn of wit.

The Agreeable Surprise was repeated; and I saw it a second time with unabated pleasure. It is become a favourite piece, and always announced with the addition of the favourite musical farce. The theatre appeared to me somewhat larger than the one at Hamburg; and the house was both times very full.—Thus much for English plays, play-houses, and players.

English Customs and Education.

A FEW words more respecting pedantry. I have seen the regulation of one seminary of learning, here called an academy. Of these places of education, there is a prodigious

number in London; though, notwithstanding their pompous names, they are in reality nothing more than small schools set up by private persons, for children and young people.

One of the Englishmen, who were my travelling companions, made me acquainted with a Dr. G****, who lives near P———, and keeps an academy for the education of twelve young people, which number is here, as well as at our Mr. Kumpe's, never exceeded, and the same plan has been adopted and followed by many others, both here, and elsewhere.

At the entrance I perceived over the door of the house a large board, and written on it, Dr. G****'s Academy. Dr. G. received me with great courtesy as a foreigner, and shewed me his school-room, which was furnished just in the same manner as the classes in our public schools are, with benches and a professor's chair, or pulpit.

The usher at Dr. G****'s, is a young clergyman, who, seated also in a chair, or desk, instructs the boys in the Greek and Latin grammars.

Such an under-teacher is called an usher; and by what I can learn, is commonly a tormented being, exactly answering the exquisite description given of him in the Vicar of Wakefield. We went in, during the hours of attendance, and he was just hearing the boys decline their Latin, which he did in the old jog-trot way; and I own it had an odd sound to my ears, when, instead of pronouncing, for example *viri veeree*, I heard them say *viri*, of the man, exactly according to the English pronunciation, and *viro*, to the man. The case was just the same afterwards with the Greek.

Mr. G**** invited us to dinner, when I became acquainted with his wife; a very genteel young woman, whose behaviour to the children was such, that she might be said to contribute more to their education than any one else. The children drank nothing but water. For every boarder, Dr. G. receives yearly no more than 30 pounds sterling; which, however, he complained of as being too little. From 40 to 50 pounds is the most that is generally paid in these academies.

I told him of our improvements in the manner of education; and also spoke to him of the apparent great worth of character of his usher. He listened very attentively, but seemed to have thought little himself on this subject. Before and after dinner the Lord's Prayer was repeated in French, which is done in several places, as if they were eager not to waste, without some improvement, even this opportunity also, to practise the French, and thus at once accomplish two points. I afterwards told him my opinion of this species of prayer, which, however, he did not take amiss.

After dinner the boys had leave to play in a very small yard, which in most schools, or academies, in the city of London, is the *ne plus ultra* of their play-ground in their hours of recreation. But Mr. G**** has another garden at the end of the town, where he sometimes takes them to walk.

After dinner Mr. G**** himself instructed the children in writing, arithmetic, and French, all which seemed to be well taught here; especially writing, in which the young people in England, far surpass, I believe, all others. This may, perhaps, be owing to their having occasion to learn only one sort of letters. As the midsummer holidays were now approaching (at which time the children in all the academies, go home for four weeks) every one was obliged with the utmost care to copy a written model, in order to shew it to their parents, because this article is most particularly examined, as every body can tell what is, or is not good writing. The boys knew all the rules of syntax by heart.

All

All these academies are in general called boarding-schools. Some few retain the old name of schools only; though it is possible, that in real merit, they may excel the so much-boasted of academies.

It is in general the clergy, who have small incomes, who set up these schools both in town and country; and grown up people, who are foreigners, are also admitted here to learn the English language. Mr. G**** charged for board, lodging, and instruction in the English, two guineas a-week. He, however, who is desirous of perfecting himself in the English, will do better to go some distance into the country, and board himself with any clergyman who takes scholars, where he will hear nothing but English spoken, and may at every opportunity be taught both by young and old.

There are in England, besides the two universities, but few great schools or colleges. In London, there are only St. Paul's and Westminster schools; the rest are almost all private institutions, in which there reigns a kind of family education, which is certainly the most natural, if properly conducted. Some few grammar schools, or Latin schools, are notwithstanding here and there to be met with, where the master receives a fixed salary, besides the ordinary profits of the school paid by the scholars.

You see in the streets of London, great and little boys running about in long blue coats, which, like robes, reach quite down to the feet, and little white bands, such as the clergy wear. These belong to a charitable institution, or school, which bears the name of the Blue Coat School. The singing of the choristers in the streets, so usual with us, is not at all customary here. Indeed, there is in England, or at least in London, such a constant walking, riding, and driving up and down in the streets, that it would not be very practicable. Parents here, in general, nay even those of the lowest classes, seem to be kind and indulgent to their children; and do not, like our common people, break their spirits too much by blows and sharp language. Children should certainly be inured early to set a proper value on themselves; whereas with us, parents of the lower class bring up their children to the same slavery under which they themselves groan.

Notwithstanding the constant new appetites and calls of fashion, they here remain faithful to nature till a certain age. What a contrast, when I figure to myself our petted, pale-faced Berlin boys, at six years old, with a large bag, and all the parade of grown-up persons, nay even with laced coats; and here, on the contrary, see nothing but fine, ruddy, slim, active boys, with their bosoms open, and their hair cut on their forehead, whilst behind it flows naturally in ringlets. It is something uncommon here to meet a young man, and more especially a boy, with a pale or fallow face, with deformed features, or disproportioned limbs. With us, alas! it is not to be concealed, the case is very much otherwise; if it were not, handsome people would hardly strike us so very much as they do in this country.

This free, loose, and natural dress, is worn till they are eighteen, or even till they are twenty. It is then, indeed, discontinued by the higher ranks, but with the common people it always remains the same. They then begin to have their hair dressed, and curled with irons, to give the head a large bushy appearance, and half their backs are covered with powder. I am obliged to remain still longer under the hands of an English, than I was under a German, hair-dresser; and to sweat under his hot irons with which he curls my hair all over, in order that I may appear among Englishmen, somewhat English. I must here observe that the English hair-dressers are also barbers,

an office, however, which they perform very badly indeed; though I cannot but consider shaving as a far more proper employment for these *petit maîtres* than it is for surgeons, who, you know, in our country are obliged to shave us. It is incredible how much the English at present Frenchify themselves; the only things yet wanting are bags and swords, with which at least, I have seen no one walking publicly, but I am told they are worn at court.

In the morning it is usual to walk out in a sort of negligée, or morning dress, your hair not dressed, but merely rolled up in rollers, and in a frock and boots. In Westminster, the morning lasts till four or five o'clock, at which time they dine; and supper and going to bed are regulated accordingly. They generally do not breakfast till ten o'clock. The farther you go from the court into the city, the more regular and domestic the people become; and there they generally dine about three o'clock, *i. e.* as soon as the business or 'Change is over.

Trimmed suits are not yet worn, and the most usual dress is in summer, a short white waistcoat, black breeches, white silk stockings, and a frock, generally of very dark blue cloth, which looks like black; and the English seem in general to prefer dark colours. If you wish to be full dress, you wear black. Officers rarely wear their uniforms, but dress like other people, and are to be known to be officers only by a cockade in their hats.

It is a common observation, that the more solicitous any people are about dress, the more effeminate they are. I attribute it entirely to this idle adventitious passion for finery, that these people are become so over and above careful of their persons; they are for ever, and on every occasion, putting one another on their guard against catching cold; "you'll certainly catch cold," they always tell you if you happen to be a little exposed to the draught of the air, or if you be not clad, as they think, sufficiently warm. The general topic of conversation in summer, is on the important objects of whether such and such an acquaintance be in town, or such an one in the country. Far from blaming it, I think it natural and commendable, that nearly one half of the inhabitants of this great city migrate into the country in summer. And into the country, I too, though not a Londoner, hope soon to wander.

Electricity happens at present to be the puppet-show of the English. Whoever at all understands electricity, is sure of being noticed and successful.—This a certain Mr. Katterfelto experiences, who gives himself out for a Prussian, speaks bad English, and understands, beside the usual electrical and philosophical experiments, some legerdemain tricks, with which (at least according to the papers) he sets the whole world in wonder. For in almost every newspaper that appears, there are some verses on the great Katterfelto, which some one or other of his hearers are said to have made extempore. Every sensible person considers Katterfelto as a puppy, an ignoramus, a braggadocio, and an impostor; notwithstanding which he has a number of followers. He has demonstrated to the people, that the influenza is occasioned by a small kind of insect, which poisons the air; and a nostrum, which he pretends to have found out, to prevent or destroy it, is eagerly bought of him. A few days ago he put into the papers: "It is true that Mr. Katterfelto has always wished for cold and rainy weather, in order to destroy the pernicious insects in the air; but now, on the contrary, he wishes for nothing more than for fair weather, as his majesty and the whole royal family have determined, the first fine day, to be eye-witnesses of the great wonder, which this learned philosopher will render visible to them." Yet all this while the royal family have not so much as even thought of seeing the wonders of Mr. Katterfelto. This kind of
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rhodomontade is very finely expressed in English by the word puff, which, in its literal sense, signifies a blowing, or violent gust of wind, and in the metaphorical sense, a boasting, or bragging.

Of such puffs the English newspapers are daily full; particularly of quack medicines and empirics; by means of which many a one here (and among others a German, who goes by the name of the German doctor) are become rich. An advertisement of a lottery in the papers begins with capitals in this manner:—"Ten Thousand Pounds for a Six-pence! Yes, however astonishing it may seem, it is nevertheless undoubtedly true, that for the small stake of six-pence, ten thousand pounds, and other capital prizes, may be won, &c."—But enough for this time of the puffs of the English.

I yesterday dined with the Rev. Mr. Schrader, son-in-law to professor Foster of Halle. He is chaplain to the German chapel at St. James's; but besides himself, he has a colleague or a reader, who is also in orders, but has only fifty pounds yearly salary. Mr. Schrader also instructs the younger princes and princesses of the royal family in their religion. At his house I saw the two chaplains, Mr. Lindeman and Mr. Kritter, who went with the Hanoverian troops to Minorca, and who were returned with the garrison. They were exposed to every danger along with the troops. The German clergy, as well as every other person in any public station immediately under government, are obliged to pay a considerable tax out of their salaries.

The English clergy (and I fear those still more particularly who live in London) are noticeable, and lamentably conspicuous, by a very free, secular, and irregular way of life. Since my residence in England, one has fought a duel in Hyde Park, and shot his antagonist. He was tried for the offence, and it was evident the judge thought him guilty of murder; but the jury declared him guilty only of manslaughter; and on this verdict he was burnt in the hand, if that may be called burning which is done with a cold iron; this being a privilege which the nobility and clergy enjoy above other murderers.

Yesterday week, after I had preached for Mr. Wendeborne, we passed an English church, in which, we understood, the sermon was not yet quite finished. On this we went in, and then I heard a young man preaching, with a tolerable good voice, and a proper delivery; but, like the English in general, his manner was unimpassioned, and his tone monotonous. From the church we went to a coffee-house opposite to it, and there we dined. We had not been long there before the same clergyman, whom we had just heard preaching, also came in. He called for pen and ink, and hastily wrote down a few pages on a long sheet of paper, which he put into his pocket; I suppose it was some rough sketch or memorandum, that occurred to him at that moment, and which he thus reserved for some future sermon. He too ordered some dinner; which he had no sooner eat, than he returned immediately to the same church. We followed him, and he again mounted the pulpit, where he drew from his pocket a written paper, or book of notes, and delivered in all probability, those very words which he had just before composed in our presence at the coffee-house.

In these coffee-houses, however, there generally prevails a very decorous stillness and silence. Every one speaks softly to those only who sit next him. The greater part read the newspapers, and no one ever disturbs another. The room is commonly on the ground floor, and you enter it immediately from the street; the seats are divided by wooden wainscot partitions. Many letters and projects are here written and planned, and many of those that you find in the papers are dated from some of these coffee-houses. There is, therefore, nothing incredible, nor very extraordinary, in
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a person's composing a sermon here, excepting that one would imagine it might have been done better at home, and certainly should not have thus been put off to the last minute.

Another long walk that I have taken pretty often, is through Hanover-square and Cavendish-square, to Bulstrode-street, near Paddington, where the Danish ambassador lives, and where I have often visited the Danish Chargée d'Affaires, M. Schornborn. He is well known in Germany, as having attempted to translate Pindar into German. Besides this, and besides being known to be a man of genius, he is known to be a great proficient in most of the branches of natural philosophy. I have spent many very pleasant hours with him.

Sublime poetry, and in particular odes, are his forte; there are indeed few departments of learning in which he has not extensive knowledge, and he is also well read in the Greek and Roman authors. Every thing he studies, he studies merely from the love he bears to the science itself, and by no means for the love of fame. One could hardly help saying it is a pity that so excellent a man should be so little known, were it not generally the case with men of transcendent merit. But what makes him still more valuable is his pure and open soul, and his amiable unaffected simplicity of character, which has gained him the love and confidence of all who know him. He has heretofore, been secretary to the ambassador at Algiers; and even here in London, when he is not occupied by the business arising from his public station, he lives exceedingly retired, and devotes his time almost entirely to the study of the sciences. The more agreeable I find such an acquaintance, the harder it will be for me to lose, as I soon must, his learned, his instructive, and his friendly conversation.

I have seen the large Freemason's Hall here, at the tavern of the same name. This hall is of an astonishing height and breadth, and to me it looked almost like a church. The orchestra is very much raised, and from that you have a fine view of the whole hall, which makes a majestic appearance. The building is said to have cost an immense sum. But to that the lodges in Germany also contributed. Free-masonry seems to be held in but little estimation in England, perhaps because most of the lodges are now degenerated into mere drinking clubs; though, I hope, there still are some who assemble for nobler and more essential purposes. The duke of Cumberland is now grand master.

London, 20th June, 1782.

AT length my determination of going into the country takes effect; and I am to set off this very afternoon in a stage; so that I now write to you my last letter from London, I mean till I return from my pilgrimage; for as soon as ever I have got beyond the dangerous neighbourhood of London, I shall certainly no longer suffer myself to be cooped up in a post-coach, but take my staff and pursue my journey on foot. In the mean time, however, I will relate to you what I may either have forgotten to write before, or what I have seen worth notice within these few days last past; among which the foremost is

St. Paul's.

I MUST own that on my entrance into this massy building, an uncommon vacancy, which seemed to reign in it, rather damped than raised an impression of any thing majestic in me. All around me I could see nothing but immense bare walls and pillars. Above

Above me, at an astonishing height, was the vaulted stone roof; and beneath me, a plain, flat, even floor, paved with marble. No altar was to be seen, or any other sign that this was a place where mankind assembled to adore the Almighty. For the church itself, or properly that part of it where they perform divine service, seems as it were a piece stuck on or added to the main edifice; and is separated from the large round empty space by an iron gate, or door. Did the great architects, who adopted this stile of building, mean by this to say that such a temple is most proper for the adoration of the Almighty? If this was their aim, I can only say, I admire the great temple of nature; the azure vaulted sky, and the green carpet, with which the earth is spread. This is truly a large temple; but then there is in it no void, no spot unappropriated, or unfilled: but every where proofs in abundance of the presence of the Almighty. If however, mankind, in their honest ambition to worship the Great God of Nature, in a stile not wholly unsuitable to the great object of their reverence, and in their humble efforts at magnificence, aim, in some degree, to rival the magnificence of nature, particular pains should be taken to hit on something that might atone for the unavoidable loss of the animation, and ampleness of nature: something in short that should clearly indicate the true and appropriated design and purpose of such a building. If, on the other hand, I could be contented to consider St. Paul's merely as a work of art; built as if merely to shew the amazing extent of human powers, I should certainly gaze at it with admiration and astonishment: but then I wish rather to contemplate it with awe and veneration. But, I perceive, I am wandering out of my way: St. Paul's is here, as it is, a noble pile, and not unworthy of this great nation. And even if I were sure that I could, you would hardly thank me for shewing you how it might have been still more worthy of this intelligent people. I make a conscience however of telling you always, with fidelity, what impression every thing I see or hear makes on me at the time. For a small sum of money I was conducted all over the church, by a man, whose office it seemed to be, and he repeated to me, I dare say, exactly his lesson, which no doubt he had perfectly got by rote; of how many feet long and broad it was; how many years it was in building, and in what year built: much of this rigmarole story, which, like a parrot, he repeated mechanically, I could willingly have dispensed with. In the part that was separated from the rest by the iron gate, above mentioned, was what I call the church itself; furnished with benches, pews, pulpit, and an altar; and on each side seats for the choristers, as there are in our cathedrals. This church seemed to have been built purposely in such a way, that the bishop, or dean, or dignitary, who should preach there, might not be obliged to strain his voice too much. I was now conducted to that part which is called the whispering gallery, which is a circumference of prodigious extent, just below the cupola. Here I was directed to place myself in a part of it directly opposite to my conductor, on the other side of the gallery, so that we had the whole breadth of the church between us; and here as I stood, he, knowing his cue no doubt, flung to the door with all his force, which gave a sound that I could compare to nothing less than a peal of thunder. I was next desired to apply my ear to the wall, which, when I did, I heard the words of my conductor: "can you hear me?" Which he softly whispered quite on the other side, as plain and as loud as one commonly speaks to a deaf person. This scheme to condense and invigorate sound at so great a distance, is really wonderful. I once noticed some sound of the same sort, in the senatorial cellar at Bremen; but neither that, nor I believe any other in the world, can pretend to come in competition with this.

I now ascended several steps to the great gallery, which runs on the outside of the great dome, and here I remained nearly two hours, as I could hardly, in less time,

satisfy myself with the prospect of the various interesting objects that lay all round me ; and which can no where be better seen, than from hence.

Every view, and every object I studied attentively, by viewing them again and again on every side : for I was anxious to make a lasting impression of it on my imagination.

Below me, lay steeples, houses, and palaces in countless numbers ; the squares with their grass plots in their middle that lay agreeably dispersed and intermixed, with all the huge clusters of buildings, forming, mean-while, a pleasing contrast, and a relief to the jaded eye.

At one end rose the Tower, itself a city, with a wood of masts behind it ; and at the other Westminster Abbey with its steeples. There I beheld, clad in smiles, those beautiful green hills, that skirt the environs of Paddington and Islington : here on the opposite bank of the Thames, lay Southwark ; the city itself it seems to be impossible for any eye to take in entirely, for with all my pains, I found it impossible to ascertain either where it ended, or where the circumjacent villages began : far as the eye could reach, it seemed to be all one continued chain of buildings.

I well remember how large I thought Berlin, when first I saw it from the steeple of St. Mary, and from the Temple Yard Hills : but how did it now sink and fall in my imagination, when I compared it with London !

It is however idle and vain to attempt giving you, in words, any description, however faint and imperfect, of such a prospect as I have just been viewing. He who wishes at one view to see a world in-miniature, must come to the dome of St. Paul's.

The roof of St. Paul's itself with its two lesser steeples, lay below me, and as I fancied, looked something like the back ground of a small ridge of hills, which you look down upon, when you have attained the summit of some huge rock or mountain. I should gladly have remained here sometime longer, but a gust of wind which, in this situation, was so powerful, that it was hardly possible to withstand it, drove me down.

Notwithstanding that St. Paul's is itself very high, the elevation of the ground on which it stands, contributes greatly to its elevation.

The church of St. Peter at Berlin, notwithstanding the total difference between them in the stile of building, appears, in some respects, to have a great resemblance to St. Paul's, in London. At least its large high black roof, rises above the other surrounding buildings just as St. Paul's does.

What else I saw in this stately cathedral, was only a wooden model of this very edifice ; which was made before the church was built, and which suggests some not unpleasing reflections, when one compares it with the enormous building itself.

The church-yard is enclosed with an iron rail ; and it appears a considerable distance, if you go all round.

Owing to some cause or other, the sight of St. Paul's strikes you, as being confined ; and it is certain, that this beautiful church is on every side closely surrounded by houses.

A marble statue of queen Anne, in an enclosed piece of ground in the west front of the church, is something of an ornament to that side.

The size of the bell of St. Paul's is also worthy of notice, as it is reckoned one of those that are deemed the largest in Europe. It takes its place, they say, next to that at Vienna.

Every thing that I saw in St. Paul's cost me only a little more than a shilling, which I paid in pence and halfpence, according to a regulated price, fixed for every different curiosity.

Westminster Abbey.

On a very gloomy dismal day, just such a one as it ought to be, I went to see Westminster Abbey.

I entered at a small door, which brought me immediately to the poet's corner, where the monuments and busts of the principal poets, artists, generals, and great men, are placed.

Not far from the door, immediately on my entrance, I perceived the statue of Shakespeare, as large as life; with a band &c. in the dress usual in his time.

A passage out of one of Shakespeare's own plays, (the *Tempest*,) in which he describes in the most solemn and affecting manner, the end, or the dissolution of all things, is here, with great propriety, put up at his epitaph; as though none but Shakespeare could do justice to Shakespeare.

Not far from this immortal bard is Rowe's monument, which, as it is intimated in the few lines that are inscribed as his epitaph, he himself had desired to be placed there.

At no great distance, I saw the bust of that amiable writer, Goldsmith; to whom, as well as to Butler, whose monument is in a distant part of the abbey, though they had scarcely necessary bread to eat during their life time, handsome monuments are now raised. Here, too you see, almost in a row, the monuments of Milton, Dryden, Gay, and Thompson. The inscription on Gay's tomb-stone is, if not actually immoral, yet futile and weak; though he is said to have written it himself:

"Life is a jest, and all things shew it,
"I thought so once, but now I know it."

Our Handel has also a monument here, where he is represented as large as life.

An actress, Pritchard, and Booth, an actor, have also very distinguished monuments erected here to their memories.

For Newton, as was proper, there is a very costly one. It is above, at the entrance of the choir, and exactly opposite to this, at the end of the church, another is erected, which refers you to the former.

As I passed along the side walls of Westminster Abbey, I hardly saw any thing but marble monuments of great admirals, but which were all too much loaded with finery and ornaments, to make, on me at least, the intended impression.

I always returned with most pleasure to the poets' corner, where the most sensible, the most able, and most learned men, of the different ages, were re-assembled; and particularly where the elegant simplicity of the monuments made an elevated and affecting impression on the mind, while a perfect recollection of some favourite passage, of a Shakespeare, or Milton, recurred to my idea, and seemed for a moment to re-animate and bring back the spirits of those truly great men.

Of Addison and Pope I have found no monuments here. The vaults where the kings are buried, and some other things worth notice in the abbey, I have not yet seen; but perhaps I may at my return to London from the country.

I have made every necessary preparation for this journey. In the first place, I have an accurate map of England in my pocket; besides an excellent book of the roads, which Mr. Pointer, the English merchant to whom I am recommended, has lent me:

The title is, "A new and accurate description of all the direct, and principal cross Roads in Great Britain." This book, I hope will be of great service to me in my ramblings.

I was for a long time undecided which way I should go, whether to the Isle of Wight, to Portsmouth, or to Derbyshire, which is famous for its natural curiosities, and also for its romantic situation. At length I have determined on Derbyshire.

During my absence I leave my trunk at Mr. Mulhausen's, (one of Mr. Pointer's senior partners) that I may not be at the needless expence of paying for my lodging without making use of it. This Mr. Pointer lived long in Germany, and is politely partial to us and our language, and speaks it well. He is a well bred, and singularly obliging man; and one who possesses a vast fund of information, and a good taste. I cannot but feel myself happy in having obtained a recommendation to so accomplished a man. I got it from Messrs. Persent and Dorner, to whom I had the honour to be recommended by Mr. Von Taubenheim, Privy Counsellor at Berlin. These recommendations have been of infinite use to me.

I propose to go to day as far as Richmond; for which place a Stage sets out about two o'clock from some inn, not far from the New Church in the Strand. Four guineas, some linen, my English book of the roads, and a map and pocket-book, together with Milton's Paradise Lost, which I must put in my pocket, compose the whole of my equipage; and I hope to walk very lightly with it. But it now strikes half past one; and of course it is time for me to be at the stage. Farewell! I will write to you again from Richmond.

Richmond, 21st June, 1782.

YESTERDAY afternoon I had the luxury, for the first time, of being driven in an English stage. These coaches are at least in the eyes of a foreigner, quite elegant, lined in the inside; and with two seats large enough to accommodate six persons: but it must be owned, when the carriage is full, the company are rather crowded.

At the White Hart from whence the coach sets out, there was, at first, only an elderly lady who got in; but as we drove along, it was soon filled, and mostly by ladies, there being only one more gentleman and myself. The conversation of the ladies among themselves, who appeared to be a little acquainted with each other, seemed to me to be but very insipid and tiresome. All I could do was, I drew out my book of the roads, and marked the way we were going.

Before you well know that you are out of London, you are already in Kensington and Hammer-smith; because there are all the way houses on both sides, after you are out of the city; just as you may remember the case is with us when you drive from Berlin to Schoneberg; although in point of prospect, houses, and streets, the difference, no doubt, is prodigious.

It was a fine day, and there were various delightful prospects on both sides, on which the eye would willingly have dwelt longer, had not our coach rolled on past them, so provokingly quick. It appeared somewhat singular to me, when, at a few miles from London, I saw at a distance a beautiful white house; and perceived on the high road, on which we were driving, a direction post, on which were written these words: "that great white house, at a distance, is a boarding-school!"

The man who was with us in the coach pointed out to us the country seats of the lords and great people, by which we passed; and entertained us with all kind of stories of

of robberies, which had been committed on travellers, hereabouts : so that the ladies at last began to be rather afraid ; on which he began to stand up for the superior honour of the English robbers, when compared with the French : the former he said robbed only, the latter both robbed and murdered.

Notwithstanding this, there are in England another species of villains, who also murder, and that oftentimes for the merest trifle, of which they rob the person murdered. These are called Footpads, and are the lowest class of English rogues ; amongst whom, in general there reigns something like some regard to character.

The highest order of thieves are the pick-pockets, or cutpurses, whom you find every where ; and sometimes even in the best companies. They are generally well and handsomely dressed, so that you take them to be persons of rank ; as indeed may sometimes be the case : persons who by extravagance and excesses have reduced themselves to want, and find themselves obliged at last to have recourse to pilfering and thieving.

Next to them come the highwaymen, who rob on horseback ; and often, they say, even with unloaded pistols they terrify travellers, in order to put themselves in possession of their purses. Among these persons, however, there are instances of true greatness of soul, there are numberless instances of their returning a part of their booty, where the party robbed has appeared to be particularly distressed ; and they are seldom guilty of murder.

Then comes the third and lowest, and worst of all thieves and rogues, the footpads before mentioned ; who are on foot, and often murder in the most inhuman manner, for the sake of only a few shillings, any unfortunate people who happen to fall in their way. Of this several mournful instances may be read almost daily in the English papers. Probably they murder because they cannot like highwaymen, aided by their horses, make a rapid flight ; and therefore such pests are frequently pretty easily pursued and taken, if the person robbed gives information of his robbery in time.

But to return to our stage, I must observe, that they have here a curious way of riding, not in, but upon a stage-coach. Persons to whom it is not convenient to pay a full price, instead of the inside, sit on the top of the coach, without any seats or even a rail. By what means passengers thus fasten themselves securely on the roof of these vehicles, I know not ; but you constantly see numbers seated there, apparently at their ease, and in perfect safety.

This they call riding on the outside ; for which they pay only half as much as those pay who are within : we had at present six of these passengers over our heads, who, when we alighted, frequently made such a noise and bustle, as sometimes almost frightened us. He who can properly balance himself, rides not incommodiously on the outside ; and in summer time, in fine weather, on account of the prospects, it certainly is more pleasant than it is within : excepting that the company is generally low, and the dust is likewise more troublesome than in the inside, where, at any rate, you may draw up the windows according to your pleasure.

In Kensington where we stopped, a Jew applied for a place along with us ; but as there was no seat vacant in the inside, he would not ride on the outside ; which seemed not quite to please my travelling companions. They could not help thinking it somewhat preposterous, that a Jew should be ashamed to ride on the outside, or on any side, and in any way ; since, as they added, he was nothing more than a Jew. This antipathy and prejudice against the Jews, I have noticed to be far more common here, than it is even with us, who certainly are not partial to them.

Of the beautiful country seats and villas which we now passed, I could only through the windows of our coach gain a partial and indistinct prospect; which led me to wish, as I soon most earnestly did, to be released from this moveable prison. Towards evening we arrived at Richmond. In London, before I set out, I had paid one shilling: another was now demanded; so that upon the whole, from London to Richmond, the passage in the stage costs just two shillings.

As soon as I had alighted at an Inn and had drank my tea, I went out immediately to see the town and the circumjacent country.

Even this town, though hardly out of sight of London, is more countrified, pleasanter, and more cheerful than London, and the houses do not seem to be so much blackened by smoke. The people also appeared to me here more sociable, and more hospitable. I saw several sitting on benches before their doors, to enjoy the cool breeze of the evening. On a large green area in the middle of the town, a number of boys and even young men, were enjoying themselves, and playing at trap-ball. In the streets there reigned here, compared to London, a pleasing rural tranquillity; and I breathed a purer and fresher air.

I went now out of the town over a bridge, which lies across the Thames, and where you pay a penny as often as you pass over it. The bridge is lofty, and built in the form of an arch, and from it you enter immediately into a most charming valley, that winds all along the banks of the Thames.

It was evening; the sun was just shedding her last parting rays on the valley: but such an evening, and such a valley! O, it is impossible I should ever forget them. The terrace at Richmond does assuredly afford one of the finest prospects in the world. Whatever is charming in nature, or pleasing in art, is to be seen here. Nothing I had ever seen, or ever can see elsewhere, is to be compared to it. My feelings during the few short enraptured minutes that I stood there, it is impossible for any pen to describe.

One of my first sensations was, chagrin and sorrow for the days and hours I had wasted in London; and I had vented a thousand bitter reproaches on my irresolution, that I had not long ago quitted that huge dungeon, to come here, and pass my time in paradise.

Yes, my friend, whatever be your ideas of paradise, and how luxuriantly soever it may be depicted to your imagination, I venture to foretel, that here you will be sure to find all those ideas realized. In every point of view, Richmond is assuredly one of the first situations in the world. Here it was that Thomson and Pope gleaned from nature all those beautiful passages with which their inimitable writings abound.

Instead of the incessant distressing noise in London, I saw here at a distance sundry little family parties walking arm in arm along the banks of the Thames. Every thing breathed a soft and pleasing calm, which warmed my heart; and filled it with some of the most pleasing sensations, of which our nature is susceptible.

Beneath I trod on that fresh, even, and soft verdure, which is to be seen only in England: on one side of me lay a wood, than which nature cannot produce a finer; and on the other, Thames with its shelvy bank and charming lawns, rising like an amphitheatre; along which, here and there, one espies a picturesque white house, aspiring, in majestic simplicity, to pierce the dark foliage of the surrounding tree; thus, studding, like stars in the galaxy, the rich expanse of this charming vale.

Sweet Richmond! never, no never shall I forget that lovely evening, when from thy fairy hills thou didst so hospitably smile on me, a poor lonely, insignificant stranger! As I traversed to and fro thy meads, thy little swelling hills, and flowery dells, and above all,

all, that queen of all rivers, thy own majestic Thames, I forgot all sublunary cares, and thought only of heaven and heavenly things. Happy, thrice happy am I, I again and again exclaimed, that I am no longer in yon gloomy city, but here in *Elysium*, in Richmond!

O ye copy hills, ye green meadows, and ye rich streams in this blessed country,—how have ye enchanted me! Still however, let me recollect, and resolve, as I firmly do, that even ye shall not prevent my return to those barren and dusty lands, where my, perhaps a less indulgent, destiny has placed me; and where, in the due discharge of all the arduous and important duties of that humble function, to which providence has called me, I must and I will faithfully exert my best talents: and in that exertion find pleasure, and I trust, happiness. In every future moment of my life, however, the recollection of this scene, and the feelings it inspired, shall cheer my labours, and invigorate my efforts.

These were some of my reflections, my dearest friend, during my solitary walk. Of the evening I passed at Richmond, I speak feebly, when I content myself with saying only, it was one of the pleasantest I ever spent in my life.

I now resolved to go to bed early, with a firm purpose of also rising early the next day, to revisit this charming walk. For I thought to myself, I have now seen this *Tempe* of the modern world imperfectly; I have seen it only by moon-light: how much more charming must it be, when glistening with the morning dew! These fond hopes alas! were all disappointed. In all great schemes of enjoyment, it is I believe, no bad way always to figure to yourself some possible evil that may arise; and to anticipate a disappointment. If I had done so, I should not perhaps have felt the mortification I then experienced, quite so pungent. By some means or other I staid too long out, and so when I returned to Richmond, I had forgot the name and the sign of the inn, where I had before stopped; it cost me no little trouble to find it again.

When at last, I got back, I told the people what a sweet walk I had had; and they then spoke much of a prospect from a neighbouring hill, known by the name of Richmond Hill, which was the very same hill, from the top of which I had just been gazing, at the houses in the vale the preceding evening. From this same hill, therefore, I resolved the next morning to see the sun rise.

The landlady of this house was a notable one; and talked so much and so loud to her servants, that I could not get to sleep, till it was pretty late. However I was up next morning at three o'clock: and was now particularly sensible of the great inconveniences they sustain in England by their bad custom of rising so late: for, as I was the only one in this family who was up, I could not get out of the house. This obliged me to spend three most irksome and heavy hours till six o'clock; however, a servant, at length, opened the door; and I rushed out, to climb Richmond-hill. To my infinite disappointment, within the space of an hour, the sky had become overcast, and it was now so cloudy, that I could not even see, nor of course enjoy, one half of the delightful prospect that lay before me.

On the top of this hill is an alley of chestnut-trees, under which here and there seats are placed. Behind the alley is a row of well-built gentlemen's country seats: one does not wonder to see it thus occupied; besides the pure air, the prospect exceeds every thing else of the kind in the world. I never saw a palace, which (if I were the owner of it) I would not give for any of the houses I now saw on Richmond Terrace.

The descent of the hill to the Thames is covered with verdure, the Thames, at the foot of it, forms near a semi-circle; in which it seems to embrace woody plains, with

with meadows and country seats in its bosom. On one side you see the town and its magnificent bridge; and on the other a dark wood.

At a distance you could perceive peeping out among the meadows and woods sundry small villages, so that notwithstanding the dullness of the weather, this prospect, even now, was one of the finest I had ever seen. But what is the reason, that yesterday evening my feelings were far more acute and lively, the impressions made on me much stronger, when from the vale I viewed the hill, and fancied that there was in it every thing that was delightful, than they are this morning, when from the hill I overlooked the vale, and knew pretty exactly what it contained?

I have now finished my breakfast; and once more seize my staff, (the only companion I have) and now again, set out on this romantic journey on foot. From Windsor you shall hear more of me.

Windsor, 13th June.

I HAVE already, my dearest friend, now that I write to you from hence, experienced so many inconveniences as a traveller on foot, that I am at some loss to determine, whether or no I shall go on with my journey in the same manner.

A traveller on foot in this country seems to be considered as a sort of wild man, or out-of-the-way being, who is stared at, pitied, suspected, and shunned by every body that meets him. At least this has hitherto been my case, on the road from Richmond to Windsor.

My host at Richmond, yesterday morning, could not sufficiently express his surprise, that I intended to venture to walk as far as Oxford, and still farther. He however was so kind as to send his son, a clever little boy, to shew me the road leading to Windsor.

At first I walked along a very pleasant footway by the side of the Thames; where close to my right lay the king's garden. On the opposite bank of the Thames was Isleworth, a spot that seemed to be distinguished by some elegant gentlemen's country-seats and gardens. Here I was obliged to ferry the river, in order to get into the Oxford-road, which also leads to Windsor.

When I was on the other side of the water, I came to a house, and asked a man who was standing at the door, if I was on the right road to Oxford. "Yes," said he, "but you want a carriage to carry you thither:" when I answered him that I intended walking it, he looked at me significantly, shook his head, and went into the house again.

I was now on the road to Oxford. It is a charming fine broad road; and I met on it carriages without number; which, however, on account of the heat, occasioned a dust that was extremely troublesome and disagreeable. The fine green hedges, which border the roads in England, contribute greatly to render them pleasant. This was the case in the road I now travelled: for, when I was tired, I sat down in the shade under one of these hedges, and read Milton. But this relief was soon rendered disagreeable to me; for, those who rode, or drove, past me, stared at me with astonishment; and made many significant gestures, as if they thought my head deranged. So singular must it needs have appeared to them to see a man sitting along the side of a public road, and reading. I therefore found myself obliged when I wished to rest myself and read, to look out for a retired spot in some by-lane or cross-road.

When

When I again walked, many of the coachmen who drove by called out to me, ever and anon, and asked if I would not ride on the outside; and when, every now and then, a farmer on horseback met me, he said, and seemingly with an air of pity for me,—“’tis warm walking, sir!” and when I passed through a village, every old woman testified her pity by an exclamation of—“Good God!”

As far as Hounslow, the way was very pleasant; afterwards I thought it not quite so good. It lay across a common, which was of a considerable extent, and bare and naked; excepting that here and there, I saw sheep feeding.

I now began to be very tired; when, to my astonishment, I saw a tree in the middle of the common, that stood quite solitary, and spread a shade like an arbour round it; at the bottom, round the trunk, a bench was placed, on which one may sit down; beneath the shade of this tree I reposed myself a little, read some of Milton, and made a note in my memorandum-book, that I would remember this tree, which had so charitably and hospitably received under its shade a weary traveller. This, you see, I have now done.

The short English miles are delightful for walking; you are always pleased to find, every now and then, in how short a time you have walked a mile; though, no doubt, a mile is every where a mile. I walk but a moderate pace, and can accomplish four English miles in an hour; it used to take me pretty nearly the same time for one German mile. Now it is a pleasing exchange to find, that in two hours I can walk eight miles. And now I fancy, I was about seventeen miles from London, when I came to an inn, where, for a little wine and water, I was obliged to pay sixpence. An Englishman who happened to be sitting by the side of the innkeeper, found out that I was a German, and of course from the country of his queen; in praise of whom he was quite lavish; observing more than once, that England never had had such a queen, and would not easily get such another.

It now began to grow hot. On the left hand, almost close to the high road, I met with a singularly clear rivulet. In this I bathed, and was much refreshed; and afterwards, with fresh alacrity, continued my journey.

I had now got over the common, and was once more in a country rich and well cultivated, beyond all conception. This continued to be the case as far as Slough, which is twenty miles and a half from London, on the way to Oxford; and from which to the left there is a road leading to Windsor, whose high white castle I have already seen at a distance.

I made no stay here, but went directly to the right, along a very pleasant high-road, between meadows and green hedges, towards Windsor, where I arrived about noon.

It strikes a foreigner as something particular and unusual, when, on passing through these fine English towns, he observes none of those circumstances by which the towns in Germany are distinguished from the villages, no walls, no gates, no sentries, nor garrisons. No stern examiner comes here to search and inspect us or our baggage; no imperious guard here demands a sight of our passports; perfectly free and unmolested, we here walk through villages and towns as unconcerned as we should through an house of our own.

Just before I got to Windsor, I passed Eton college, one of the first public schools in England, and perhaps in the world. I have before observed, that there are in England fewer of these great schools than one might expect. It lay on my left; and on the right, directly opposite to it, was an inn, into which I went.

I suppose it was during the hour of recreation, or in playtime, when I got to Eton; for I saw the boys in the yard before the college, which was inclosed by a low wall, in great numbers, walking and running up and down.

Their dress struck me particularly: from the biggest to the least, they all wore black cloaks, or gowns, over coloured cloaths; through which there was an aperture for their arms. They also wore besides, a square hat or cap, that seemed to be covered with velvet, such as our clergymen in many places wear.

They were differently employed; some talking together; some playing; and some had their books in their hands, and were reading; but I was soon obliged to get out of their sight, they stared at me so, as I came along, all over dust, with my stick in my hand.

As I entered the inn, and desired to have something to eat, the countenance of the waiter soon gave me to understand, that I should there find no very friendly reception. Whatever I got they seemed to give me with such an air, as shewed too plainly how little they thought of me; and as if they considered me but as a beggar. I must do them the justice to own, however, that they suffered me to pay like a gentleman. No doubt this was the first time this pert bepowdered puppy had ever been called on to wait on a poor devil, who entered their place on foot. I was tired, and asked for a bedroom, where I might sleep. They shewed me into one that much resembled a prison for malefactors. I requested that I might have a better room at night; on which, without any apology, they told me, that they had no intention of lodging me, as they had no room for such guests; but that I might go back to Slough, where very probably I might get a night's lodging.

With money in my pocket, and a consciousness, moreover, that I was doing nothing that was either imprudent, unworthy, or really mean, I own it mortified and vexed me, to find myself obliged to put up with this impudent ill-usage from people who ought to reflect, that they are but the servants of the public, and little likely to recommend themselves to the high by being insolent to the low. They made me, however, pay them two shillings for my dinner and coffee; which I had just thrown down, and was preparing to shake off the dust from my shoes, and quit this inhospitable St. Christopher, when the green hills of Windsor smiled so friendly upon me, that they seemed to invite me first to visit them.

And now trudging through the streets of Windsor, I at length mounted a sort of hill; a steep path led me on to its summit, close to the walls of the castle, where I had an uncommonly extensive and fine prospect, which so much raised my heart, that in a moment, I forgot not only the insults of waiters and tavern-keepers, but the hardship of my lot, in being obliged to travel in a manner that exposed me to the scorn of a people whom I wished to respect. Below me lay the most beautiful landscapes in the world; all the rich scenery that nature, in her best attire, can exhibit. Here were the spots that furnished those delightful themes, of which the muse of Denham and Pope made choice. I seemed to view a whole world at once, rich and beautiful beyond conception. At that moment what more could I have wished for.

And the venerable castle, that royal edifice which, in every part of it, has strong traces of antiquity, smiles through its green trees, like the serene countenance of some hoary sage, who, by the vigor of an happy constitution, still retains many of the charms of youth.

Nothing inspired me with more veneration and awe, than the fine old building St. George's church; which, as you come down from the castle, is on your right. At the sight of it, past centuries seemed to revive in my imagination.

But

But I will see no more of those fights which are shewn you by one of those venal praters, who ten times a day, parrot-wise, repeat over the same dull lesson they have got by heart. The surly fellow, who for a shilling conducted me round the church, had nearly, with his chattering, destroyed the finest impressions. Henry the Eighth, Charles the First, and Edward the Fourth, are buried here. After all, this church, both within and without, has a most melancholy and dismal appearance.

They were building at what is called the queen's palace; and prodigious quantities of materials are provided for that purpose.

I now went down a gentle declivity into the delightful park at Windsor; at the foot of which it looks so sombrous and gloomy, that I could hardly help fancying it was some vast old Gothic temple. This forest certainly, in point of beauty, surpasses every thing of the kind you can figure to yourself. To its own charms, when I saw it, there were added a most pleasing and philosophical solitude; the coolness of an evening breeze; all aided by the soft sounds of music, which, at this distance from the castle, from whence it issued, was inexpressibly sweet. It threw me into a sort of enthusiastic and pleasing reverie, which made me ample amends for the fatigues, discourtesies, and continued cross accidents I had encountered in the course of the day.

I now left the forest; the clock struck six, and the workmen were going home from their work.

I have forgot to mention the large round tower of the castle; which is also a very ancient building. The roads that lead to it are, all along their sides, planted with shrubs; these being modern and lively, make a pleasing contrast to the fine old mossy walls. On the top of this tower the flag of Great Britain is usually displayed; which, however, as it was now late in the evening, was taken in.

As I came down from the castle, I saw the king driving up to it, in a very plain, two-wheeled, open carriage. The people here were politer than I used to think they were in London; for I did not see a single person, high or low, who did not pull off their hats as their sovereign passed them.

I was now again in Windsor; and found myself not far from the castle, opposite to a very capital inn, where I saw many officers and several persons of consequence going in and out. And here at this inn, contrary to all expectation, I was received by the landlord with great civility, and even kindness; very contrary to the haughty and insolent airs which the upstart at the other, and his jackanapes of a waiter, there thought fit to give themselves.

However, it seemed to be my fate to be still a scandal and an eye-sore to all the waiters. The maid, by the order of her master, shewed me a room where I might adjust my dress a little; but I could hear her mutter and grumble as she went along with me. Having put myself a little to rights, I went down into the coffee-room, which is immediately at the entrance of the house, and told the landlord, that I thought I wished to have yet one more walk. On this he obligingly directed me to stroll down a pleasant field behind his house, at the foot of which, he said, I should find the Thames, and a good bathing-place.

I followed his advice, and this evening was, if possible, finer than the preceding. Here again, as I had been told I should, I found the Thames with all its gentle windings; Windsor shone nearly as bright over the green vale, as those charming houses on Richmond hill, and the verdure was not less soft and delicate. The field I was in, seemed to slope a little towards the Thames. I seated myself near a bush, and there waited the going down of the sun. At a distance I saw a number of people bathing in the Thames. When after sun-set, they were a little dispersed, I drew near the spot I

had been directed to; and here, for the first time, I sported in the cool tide of the Thames. The bank was steep, but my landlord had dug some steps that went down into the water; which is extremely convenient for those who cannot swim. Whilst I was there, a couple of smart lively apprentice boys came also from the town; who, with the greatest expedition, threw off their cloaths and leathern aprons, and plunged themselves, head foremost, into the water, where they opposed the tide with their sinewy arms till they were tired. They advised me with much natural civility, to untie my hair, and that then, like them, I might plunge into the stream head foremost.

Refreshed and strengthened by this cool bath, I took a long walk by moon-light on the banks of the Thames; to my left were the towers of Windsor, before me a little village, with a steeple, the top of which peeped out among the green trees; at a distance two inviting hills, which I was to climb in the morning; and around me the green corn-fields. Oh! how indescribably beautiful was this evening, and this walk! At a distance among the houses, I could easily descry the inn where I lodged, and where I seemed to myself at length to have found a place of refuge, and an home; and I thought, if I could but stay there, I should not be very sorry if I were never to find another.

How soon did all these pleasing dreams vanish! On my return the waiters (who from my appearance, too probably expected but a trifling reward for their attentions to me) received me gruffly, and as if they were sorry to see me again. This was not all; I had the additional mortification to be again roughly accosted by the cross maid, who had before shewn me to the bed-chamber; and who, dropping a kind of half courtesy, with a suppressed laugh, sneeringly told me, I might look out for another lodging, as I could not sleep there, since the room she had by mistake shewn me, was already engaged. It can hardly be necessary to tell you, that I loudly protested against this sudden change. At length the landlord came, and I appealed to him; and he with great courtesy immediately desired another room to be shewn me; in which, however, there were two beds; so that I was obliged to admit a companion. Thus was I very near being a second time turned out of an inn.

Directly under my room was the tap-room; from which I could plainly hear too much of the conversation of some low people, who were drinking and singing songs, in which, as far as I could understand them, there were many passages at least as vulgar and nonsensical as ours.

This company I guessed, consisted chiefly of soldiers and low fellows. I was hardly well lulled to sleep by this hurly-burly, when my chum (probably one of the drinking party below) came stumbling into the room and against my bed. At length, though not without some difficulty, he found his own bed; into which he threw himself just as he was, without staying to pull off either cloaths or boots.

This morning I rose very early, as I had proposed, in order to climb the two hills, which yesterday presented me with so inviting a prospect; and in particular, that one of them on the summit of which an high white house appeared among the dark green trees; the other was close by.

I found no regular path leading to these hills; and therefore went straight forward, without minding roads; only keeping in view the object of my aim. This certainly created me some trouble. I had sometimes an hedge, and sometimes a bog to walk round; but at length I had attained the foot of the so earnestly wished-for hill, with the high white house on its summit, when, just as I was going to ascend it, and was already pleasing myself in the idea with the prospect from the white house, behold I

read these words on a board: Take care! there are steel traps and spring guns here.

All my labour was lost, and I now went round to the other hill; but here were also steel traps and spring guns, though probably never intended to annoy such a wanderer as myself, who wished only to enjoy the fine morning air from this eminence.

Thus disappointed in my hopes, I returned to Windsor, much in the same temper and manner as I had yesterday morning from Richmond-Hill; where my wishes had also been frustrated.

When I got to my inn, I received from the ill-tempered maid, who seemed to have been stationed there on purpose to plague and vex me, the polite welcome, that on no account should I sleep another night there. Luckily, that was not my intention. I now write to you in the coffee room, where two Germans are talking together, who certainly little suspect how well I understand them; if I were to make myself known to them, as a German, most probably, even these fellows would not speak to me, because I travel on foot. I fancy they are Hanoverians! The weather is so fine, that notwithstanding the inconveniences I have hitherto experienced on this account, I think I shall continue my journey in the same manner.

Oxford, June 25.

TO what various, singular, and unaccountable fatalities and adventures are not foot-travellers exposed, in this land of carriages and horses! But, I will begin my relation in form and order.

In Windsor, I was obliged to pay for an old fowl I had for supper; for a bed-room which I procured with some difficulty and not without murmurs, and in which, to compleat my misadventures, I was disturbed by a drunken fellow; and for a couple of dishes of tea, nine shillings, of which the fowl alone was charged six shillings.

As I was going away, the waiter, who had served me with so very ill a grace, placed himself on the stairs, and said, "pray remember the waiter!" I gave him three half-pence: on which he saluted me with the heartiest *G—d d—n you, sir!* I had ever heard. At the door stood the cross maid, who also accosted me with—"pray remember the chamber-maid!"—"Yes, yes," said I, "I shall long remember your most ill-mannered behaviour and shameful incivility;" and so I gave her nothing. I hope she was stung and nettled at my reproof: however she strove to stifle her anger by a contemptuous, loud horse laugh. Thus, as I left Windsor, I was literally followed by abuses and curses.

I am very sorry to say, that I rejoiced when I once more perceived the towers of Windsor behind me. It is not proper for wanderers to be prowling near the palaces of kings: and so I sat me down, philosophically, in the shade of a green hedge, and again read Milton, no friend of kings, though the first of poets. Whatever I may think of their inns, it is impossible not to admire and be charmed with this country.

I took my way through Slough by Salt-hill, to Maidenhead. At Salthill, which can hardly be called even a village, I saw a barber's shop; and so I resolved to get myself both shaved and dressed. For putting my hair a little in order, and shaving me, I was forced to pay him a shilling. Opposite to this shop, there stands an elegant house, and a neat garden.

Between Salt hill and Maidenhead, I met with the first very remarkable and alarming adventure, that has occurred during my pilgrimage.

Hitherto I had scarcely met a single foot passenger, whilst coaches without number every moment rolled pass me; for, there are few roads, even in England, more crowded.

crowded than this western road, which leads to Bath and Bristol, as well as to Oxford. I now also began to meet numbers of people on horseback; which is by no means an usual method of travelling.

The road now led me along a low sunken piece of ground between high trees, so that I could not see far before me, when a fellow in a brown frock and round hat, with a stick in his hand a great deal stronger than mine, came up to me. His countenance immediately struck me, as having in it something suspicious. He however passed me; but before I was aware, he turned back and asked me for a halfpenny, to buy, as he said, some bread, as he had eat nothing that day. I felt in my pocket, and found that I had no halfpence; no, nor even a sixpence; in short, nothing but shillings. I told him the circumstance, which I hoped would excuse me: on which he said, with an air and manner the drift of which I could not understand, "God bless my soul!" This drew my attention still closer to the huge brawny fist, which grasped his stick; and that closer attention determined me immediately to put my hand in my pocket and give him a shilling. Meanwhile a coach came up. The fellow thanked me, and went on. Had the coach come a moment sooner, I should not easily have given him the shilling; which, God knows, I could not well spare. Whether this was a foot-pad or not, I will not pretend to say; but he had every appearance of it.

I now came to Maidenhead bridge, which is five and twenty English miles from London.

The English mile-stones give me much pleasure; and they certainly are a great convenience to travellers. They have often seemed to ease me of half the distance of a journey, merely by telling me how far I had already gone; and by assuring me that I was on the right road. For, besides the distance from London, every mile-stone informs you, that, to the next place is so many miles: and where there are cross-roads, there are direction-posts, so that it is hardly possible to lose one's-self in walking. I must confess that all this journey has seemed but as it were one continued walk for pleasure.

From Maidenhead-bridge, there is a delightful prospect towards an hill, which extends itself along the right bank of the Thames: and on the top of it, there are two beautiful country seats, all surrounded with meadows and parks. The first is called Taplow, and belongs to the earl of Inchiquin; and a little farther Cliefden, which also belongs to him.

These villas seem all to be surrounded with green meadows; lying along thick woods; and, altogether, are most charming.

From this bridge, it is not far to Maidenhead; near which, on the left, is another prospect of a beautiful seat, belonging to Pennyston Powney, esq.

All this knowledge I have gained chiefly from my English guide; which I have constantly in my hand; and in which every thing most worthy of notice in every mile is marked. These notices I get confirmed or refuted by the people at whose houses I stop; who wonder how I, who am a foreigner, have come to be so well acquainted with their country.

Maidenhead is a place of little note; for some mulled ale, which I desired them to make me, I was obliged to pay nine pence. I fancy they did not take me to be either a great, or a very rich man. For, I heard them say, as I passed on, "A stout fellow!" This, though perhaps not untrue, did not seem to sound in my ears, as very respectful.

At the end of the village was a shoe-maker's shop; just as at the end of Salthill, there was a barber's shop.

From

From hence I went to Henley, which is eleven miles from Maidenhead, and thirty-six from London.

Having walked pretty fast for six English miles together, and being now only five miles from Henley, I came to a rising ground where there just happened to be a milestone, near which I sat down, to enjoy one of the most delightful prospects; the contemplation of which, I recommend to every one, who may ever happen to come to this spot. Close before me rose a soft hill, full of green corn-fields, fenced with quick-hedges; and the top of it was encircled with a wood.

At some little distance, in a large semicircle, one green hill rose after another, all around me, gently raising themselves aloft from the banks of the Thames, and on which woods, meadows, arable lands, and villages were interspersed in the greatest and most beautiful variety; whilst at their foot the Thames meandered, in most picturesque windings, among villages, gentlemen's seats, and green vales.

The banks of the Thames are every where beautiful, every where charming: how delighted was I with the sight of it, when, having lost it for a short time, I suddenly and unexpectedly saw it again with all its beautiful banks. In the vale below, flocks were feeding; and from the hills, I heard the sweet chimes of distant bells.

The circumstance that renders these English prospects so enchantingly beautiful, is a concurrence and union of the *tout ensemble*. Every thing coincides and conspires to render them fine, moving, pictures. It is impossible to name, or find a spot, on which the eye would not delight to dwell. Any of the least beautiful of any of these views that I have seen in England, would any where in Germany, be deemed a paradise.

Reinforced, as it were, by this gratifying prospect, to support fresh fatigues, I now walked a quick pace, both up and down the hills, the five remaining miles to Henley; where I arrived about four in the afternoon.

To the left, just before I got to Henley, on this side of the Thames, I saw on a hill, a fine park and a magnificent country seat; at present occupied by general Conway.

Just before my entrance into Henley, I walked a little directly on the banks of the Thames; and sat myself down in the high grass; whilst opposite to me, on the other side, lay the park on the hill. As I was a little tired, I fell asleep, and when I awaked the last rays of the setting sun just shone upon me.

Invigorated by this sweet, though short, slumber, I walked on; and entered the town. Its appearance, however, indicated that it was too fine a place for me, and so I determined to stop at an inn on the road-side; such an one as the Vicar of Wakefield well calls, "the resort of indigence and frugality."

The worst of it was, no one, even in these places of refuge, would take me in. Yet, on this road, I met two farmers, the first of whom I asked, whether he thought I could get a night's lodging at an house which I saw at a distance, by the road side. "Yes, sir, I dare say you may!" he replied. But he was mistaken: when I came there, I was accosted with that same harsh salutation, which though alas, no longer quite new to me, was still unpleasing to my ears, "We have got no beds; you can't stay here to night!" It was the same at the other inn, on the road; I was therefore obliged to determine to walk on as far as Nettlebed, which was five miles farther; where I arrived rather late in the evening, when it was indeed quite dark.

Every thing seemed to be all alive in this little village; there was a party of militia soldiers who were dancing, singing, and making merry. Immediately on my entrance into the village, the first house that I saw, lying on my left was an inn, from which,

as usual in England, a large beam extended across the street to the opposite house, from which hung dangling an astonishing large sign, with the name of the proprietor.

"May I stay here to night?" I asked with eagerness: "why, yes, you may;" an answer, which, however cold and surly, made me exceedingly happy.

They shewed me into the kitchen, and set me down to sup at the same table with some foldiers and the servants. I now, for the first time, found myself in one of those kitchens which I had so often read of in Fielding's fine novels; and which certainly give one, on the whole, a very accurate idea of English manners.

The chimney in this kitchen, where they were roasting and boiling, seemed to be taken off from the rest of the room and enclosed by a wooden partition: the rest of the apartment was made use of as a sitting and eating room. All round on the sides were shelves with pewter dishes and plates, and the ceiling was well stored with provisions of various kinds, such as sugar-loaves, black-puddings, hams, saufages, fitches of bacon, &c.

While I was eating, a post-chaise drove up; and in a moment both the folding-doors were thrown open, and the whole house set in motion, in order to receive, with all due respect, these guests, who, no doubt, were supposed to be persons of consequence. The gentlemen alighted however only for a moment, and called for nothing but a couple of pots of beer; and then drove away again. Notwithstanding the people of the house behaved to them with all possible attention, for they came in a post-chaise.

Though this was only an ordinary village, and they certainly did not take me for a person of consequence, they yet gave me a carpeted bed-room, and a very good bed.

The next morning I put on clean linen, which I had along with me, and dressed myself as well as I could. And now, when I thus made my appearance, they did not, as they had the evening before, shew me into the kitchen, but into the parlour; a room that seemed to be allotted for strangers, on the ground-floor. I was also now addressed by the most respectful term, *sir*; whereas, the evening before I had been called only *master*: by this latter appellation, I believe, it is usual to address only farmers, and quite common people.

This was Sunday; and all the family were in their Sunday-cloaths. I now began to be much pleased with this village, and so I resolved to stop at it for the day, and attend divine-service. For this purpose I borrowed a prayer-book of my host. Mr. Hilling was his name, which struck me the more, perhaps, because it is a very common name in Germany. During my breakfast I read over several parts of the English liturgy, and could not help being struck at the circumstance that every word in the whole service seems to be prescribed and dictated to the clergyman. They do not visit the sick but by a prescribed form: as, for instance, they must begin by saying, "Peace be to this house," &c.

Its being called a prayer-book, rather than, like ours, an hymn-book, arises from the nature of the English service, which is composed very little of singing; and almost entirely of praying. The psalms of David, however, are here translated into English verse; and are generally printed at the end of English prayer-books.

The prayer-book, which my landlord lent me, was quite a family-piece; for all his children's births and names, and also his own wedding-day, were very carefully set down on it. Even on this account alone the book would not have been uninteresting to me.

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At half-past nine, the service began. Directly opposite to our house, the boys of the village were all drawn up, as if they had been recruits, to be drilled: all well-looking, healthy lads, neat and decently dressed, and with their hair cut short and combed on the forehead, according to the English fashion. Their bosoms were open, and the white frills of their shirts turned back on each side. They seemed to be drawn up here at the entrance of the village, merely to wait the arrival of the clergyman.

I walked a little way out of the village; where, at some distance, I saw several people coming from another village, to attend divine service here at Nettlebed.

At length came the parson on horseback. The boys pulled off their hats, and all made him very low bows. He appeared to be rather an elderly man, and wore his own hair round and decently dressed; or rather curled naturally.

The bell now rung in, and so I too, with a sort of secret proud sensation, as if I also had been an Englishman, went with my prayer book under my arm to church, along with the rest of the congregation; and when I got into the church, the clerk very civilly seated me close to the pulpit.

Nothing can possibly be more simple, apt, and becoming than the few decorations of this church.

Directly over the altar, on two tables, in large letters, the ten commandments were written. There surely is much wisdom and propriety in thus placing, full in the view of the people, the sum and substance of all morality.

Under the pulpit, near the steps that led up to it, was a desk, from which the clergyman read the liturgy, the responses were all regularly made by the clerk; the whole congregation joining occasionally, though but in a low voice: As for instance, the minister said, "Lord have mercy upon us!" the clerk and the congregation immediately subjoin, "and forgive us all our sins." In general, when the clergyman offers up a prayer, the clerk, and the whole congregation answer only, *Amen!*

The English service must needs be exceedingly fatiguing to the officiating minister, inasmuch as, besides a sermon, the greatest part of the liturgy falls to his share to read, besides the psalms, and two lessons. The joining of the whole congregation in prayer has something exceedingly solemn and affecting in it. Two soldiers, who sat near me in the church, and who had probably been in London, seemed to wish to pass for philosophers, and wits; for they did not join in the prayers of the church.

The service was now pretty well advanced, when I observed some little stir in the desk, the clerk was busy, and they seemed to be preparing for something new and solemn; and I also perceived several musical instruments. The clergyman now stopped, and the clerk then said, in a loud voice, "Let us sing to the praise and glory of God, the forty-seventh psalm."

I cannot well express how affecting and edifying it seemed to me, to hear this whole, orderly, and decent congregation, in this small country church, joining together, with vocal and instrumental music, in the praise of their Maker. It was the more grateful, as having been performed not by mercenary musicians, but by the peaceful and pious inhabitants, of this sweet village. I can hardly figure to myself any offering more likely to be grateful to God.

The congregation sang and prayed alternately several times; and the tunes of the psalms were particularly lively and cheerful, though at the same time sufficiently grave, and uncommonly interesting. I am a warm admirer of all sacred music; and I cannot but add, that, that of the church of England is particularly calculated to raise the heart to devotion. I own it often affected me even to tears.

The clergyman now stood up and made a short, but very proper discourse on this text ; "Not all they who say, Lord, Lord! shall enter the kingdom of heaven." His language was particularly plain, though forcible ; his arguments were no less plain, convincing, and earnest ; but contained nothing that was particularly striking. I do not think the sermon lasted more than half an hour.

This clergyman had not perhaps a very prepossessing appearance : I thought him also a little distant and reserved ; and I did not quite like his returning the bows of the farmers with a very formal nod.

I staid till the service was quite over ; and then went out of the church with the congregation, and amused myself with reading the inscriptions on the tomb-stones, in the church-yard ; which, in general, are simpler, more pathetic, and better written than ours.

There were some of them, which, to be sure, were ludicrous and laughable enough.

Among these is one on the tomb of a smith, which, on account of it's singularity, I here copy and send you.

"My sledge and anvil lie declin'd,
My bellows too have lost their wind ;
My fire's extinct, my forge decay'd,
My coals are spent, my iron's gone,
My nails are drove ; my work is done."

Many of these epitaphs closed with the following quaint rhymes :

"Physicians were in vain ;
God knew the best ;
So here I rest."

In the body of the church I saw a marble monument of a son of the celebrated Dr. Wallis, with the following simple and affecting inscription :

"The same good sense which qualified him for every public employment,
Taught him to spend his life here in retirement."

All the farmers, whom I saw here, were dressed, not as ours are, in coarse frocks, but with some taste, in fine good cloth ; and were to be distinguished from the people of the town, not so much by their dress, as by the greater simplicity and modesty of their behaviour.

Some soldiers, who probably were ambitious of being thought to know the world, and to be wits, joined me, as I was looking at the church, and seemed to be quite ashamed of it, as, they said, it was only a very miserable church. On which I took the liberty to inform them, that no church could be miserable, which contained orderly and good people.

I staid here to dinner. In the afternoon there was no service ; the young people, however, went to church, and there sang some few psalms. Others of the congregation were also present. This was conducted with so much decorum, that I could hardly help considering it, as, actually a kind of church-service. I staid, with great pleasure, till this meeting also was over.

I seemed indeed to be enchanted, and as if I could not leave this village. Three times did I get off, in order to go on farther, and as often returned, more than half resolved to spend a week, or more, in my favourite Nettlebed.

But the recollection that I had but a few weeks to stay in England, and that I must see Derbyshire, at length drove me away. I cast many a longing, lingering look on the little church-steeple, and those hospitable friendly roofs, where, all that morning, I had found myself so perfectly at home.

It was now nearly three o'clock in the afternoon when I left this place; and I was still 18 miles from Oxford. However, I seemed resolved to make more than one stage of it to Oxford, that seat of the muses, and so, by passing the night about five miles from it, to reach it in good time next morning.

The road from Nettlebed seemed to me but as one long fine gravel walk in a neat garden. And my pace in it was varied, like that of one walking in a garden: I sometimes walked quick, then slow, and then sat down and read Milton.

When I had got about eight miles from Nettlebed, and was now not far from Dorchester, I had the Thames at some distance on my left; and on the opposite side, I saw an extensive hill, behind which a tall mast seemed to rise. This led me to suppose, that on the other side of the hill there must needs also be a river. The prospect I promised myself from this hill could not possibly be passed; and so I went out of the road to the left over a bridge across the Thames, and mounted the hill, always keeping the mast in view. When I had attained the summit, I found (and not without some shame and chagrin) that it was all an illusion. There was, in fact, nothing before me but a great plain; and the mast had been fixed there, either as a may-pole only, or to entice curious people out of their way.

I therefore now again, slowly and sullenly, descended the hill, at the bottom of which was an house, where several people were looking out of the window, and, as I supposed, laughing at me. Even if it were so, it seemed to be but fair, and so it rather amused, than vexed me; and I continued to jog on, without much regretting my waste journey to the mast.

Not far from Dorchester, I had another delightful view. The country here became so fine, that I positively could not prevail on myself to quit it, and so I laid myself down on the green turf, which was so fresh and sweet, that I could almost have been contented, like Nebuchadnezzar, to have grazed on it. The moon was at the full; the sun darted its last parting rays through the green hedges; to all which was added, the overpowering fragrance of the meadows, the diversified song of the birds, the hills that skirted the Thames; some of them of a light, and others of a dark-green hue; with the tufted tops of trees dispersed here and there among them. The contemplation of all these delightful circumstances well-nigh overcame me.

I arrived rather late at Dorchester. This is only a small place; but there is in it a large and noble old church. As I was walking along, I saw several ladies with their heads dressed, leaning out of their windows, or standing before the houses; and this made me conclude, that this was too fine a place for me; and so I determined to walk on three quarters of a mile farther to Nuneham; which place is only five miles from Oxford. When I reached Nuneham, I was not a little tired; and it was also quite dark.

The place consists of two rows of low, neat houses, built close to each other, and as regular and uniform as a London street. All the doors seemed to be shut; and even a light was to be seen only in a few of them.

At length quite at the end of the place, I perceived a great sign hanging across the street, and the last house to the left was the inn, at which every thing seemed to be still in motion.

I entered without ceremony, and told them my errand ; which was, that I intended to sleep there that night. "By no means ;" was the answer, "it was utterly impossible ; the whole house was full, and all their beds engaged ; and, as I had come so far, I might even as well walk on the remaining five miles to Oxford."

Being very hungry, I requested that, at least, they would give me something to eat. To this they answered, that, as I could not stay all night there, it would be more proper for me to sup where I lodged ; and so I might go on.

At length, quite humbled by the untowardness of my circumstances, I asked for a pot of beer, and that they did vouchsafe to give me, for ready money only ; but a bit of bread to eat with it (for which also I would willingly have paid) they peremptorily refused me.

Such unparalleled inhospitality I really could not have expected in an English inn : but, resolving, with a kind of spiteful indignation, to see how far their inhumanity would carry them, I begged that they would only let me sleep on a bench, and merely give me house-room ; adding, that if they would grant me that boon only, I would pay them the same as for a bed ; for, that I was so tired, I could not possibly go any farther. Even in the moment that I was thus humbly soliciting this humble boon, they banged the door to full in my face.

As here, in a small village, they had refused to receive me, it seemed to be presumption to hope, that I should gain admittance at Oxford. What could I do ? I was much tired, and so as it was not a very cold night, I resolved to pass it in the open air ; in this resolution, bouncing from this rude inn, I went to look out for a convenient spot for that purpose, in an adjoining field, beneath some friendly tree. Just as I had found a place, which I thought would do, and was going to pull off my great coat, to lay under my head, by way of pillow, I heard some one behind me, following me with a quick pace. At first, I was alarmed, but my fears were soon dispelled by his calling after me, and asking, "if I would accept of company."

As little as any one is to be trusted, who thus follows you into a field in a dark night, yet it was a pleasure to me to find that there were still some beings not quite inhuman ; and at least one person, who still interested himself about me : I therefore stopped, and as he came up to me, he said that if I was a good walker, we might keep each other company, as he was also going to Oxford. I readily accepted of his proposal, and so we immediately set off together.

Now, as I could not tell whether my travelling companion was to be trusted or not, I soon took an opportunity to let him know that I was poor, and much distressed. To confirm this, I told him of the inhumanity with which I had just been treated at the inn ; where they refused a poor wanderer so much as a place to lay his head, or even a morsel of bread for his money.

My companion somewhat excused the people by saying, that the house was really full of people who had been at work in the neighbourhood, and now slept there. But that they had refused me a bit of bread he certainly could not justify. As we went along, other topics of conversation were started, and among other things, he asked me, where I came from that day ?

I answered from Nettlebed, and added, that I had attended divine service there that morning.

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As you probably passed through Dorchester this afternoon, said he, you might have heard me preach also, had you come into the church there, for that is my curacy, from which I am just come, and am now returning to Oxford. So you are a clergyman, said I, quite overjoyed that, in a dark night, I had met a companion on the road, who was of the same profession as myself. And I also, said I, am a preacher of the gospel, though not of this country. And now I thought it right to give him to understand, that it was not, as I had before intimated, out of absolute poverty, but with a view of becoming better acquainted with men and manners, that I thus travelled on foot. He was as much pleased with this agreeable meeting as myself, and before we took a step farther, we cordially shook hands.

He now began to address me in Latin, and on my answering him in that language, which I attempted to pronounce according to the English manner of speaking it, he applauded me not a little for my correct pronunciation. He then told me, that some years ago, in the night also, and nearly at the same spot where he found me, he had met another German, who likewise spoke to him in Latin; but this unknown countryman of mine had pronounced it so very badly, that he said it was absolutely unintelligible.

The conversation now turned on various theological matters; and among others on the novel notions of a Dr. Priestly, whom he roundly blamed. I was not at all disposed to dispute that point with him, and so, professing with great sincerity, an high esteem for the church of England, and great respect and regard for its clergy, I seemed to gain his good opinion.

Beguiling the tediousness of the road by such discourse, we were now got, almost without knowing it, quite to Oxford.

He told me I should now see one of the finest and most beautiful cities, not only in England, but in all Europe. All he lamented was, that on account of the darkness of the night, I should not immediately see it.

This really was the case; and now, said he, as we entered the town, I introduce you into Oxford by one of the finest, the longest, and most beautiful streets, not only in this city, but in England, and I may safely add in all Europe.

The beauty and the magnificence of the street I could not distinguish; but of its length I was perfectly sensible by my fatigue; for we still went on, and still through the longest, the finest, and most beautiful street in Europe, which seemed to have no end; nor had I any assurance that I should be able to find a bed for myself in all this famous street. At length my companion stopped to take leave of me, and said, he should now go to his college.

And I, said I, will seat myself for the night on this stone bench, and await the morning, as it will be in vain for me, I imagine, to look for shelter in an house at this time of night.

Seat yourself on a stone, said my companion, and shook his head: No! No! come along with me to a neighbouring ale-house, where it is possible, they mayn't be gone to bed, and we may yet find company. We went on a few houses further, and then knocked at a door. It was then nearly twelve. They readily let us in; but how great was my astonishment when, on being shewn into a room on the left, I saw a great number of clergymen, all with their gowns and bands on, sitting round a large table, each with his pot of beer before him. My travelling companion introduced me to them, as a German clergyman, whom he could not sufficiently praise for my correct pronunciation of the Latin, my orthodoxy, and my good walking.

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I now saw myself in a moment, as it were, all at once transported into the midst of a company, all apparently very respectable men, but all strangers to me. And it appeared to me extraordinary, that I should, thus at midnight, be in Oxford, in a large company of Oxonian clergy, without well knowing how I had got there. Meanwhile, however, I took all the pains in my power to recommend myself to my company, and in the course of conversation, I gave them as good an account as I could of our German universities, neither denying nor concealing that, now and then, we had riots and disturbances. "O we are very unruly here too," said one of the clergymen as he took a hearty draught out of his pot of beer, and knocked on the table with his hand. The conversation now became louder, more general, and a little confused; they enquired after Mr. Bruns, at present professor at Helmstadt, and who was known by many of them.

Among these gentlemen there was one of the name of Clerk, who seemed ambitious to pass for a great wit, which he attempted by starting sundry objections to the Bible. I should have liked him better if he had confined himself to punning and playing on his own name, by telling us, again and again, that he should still be at least a Clerk, even though he should never become a clergyman. Upon the whole, however, he was, in his way, a man of some humour, and an agreeable companion.

Among other objections to the scriptures, he started this one to my travelling companion, whose name I now learnt was Maud, that it was said in the Bible, that God was a wine-bibber, and a drunkard. On this Mr. Maud fell into a violent passion, and maintained that it was utterly impossible that any such passage should be found in the Bible. Another divine, a Mr. Caern, referred us to his absent brother, who had already been forty years in the church, and must certainly know something of such a passage if it were in the Bible, but he would venture to lay any wager his brother knew nothing of it.

Waiter! fetch a Bible! called out Mr. Clerk, and a great family Bible was immediately brought in, and opened on the table among all the beer jugs.

Mr. Clerk turned over a few leaves, and in the book of Judges, 9th chapter, verse xiii. he read, "Should I leave my wine, which cheareth God and man?"

Mr. Maud and Mr. Caern, who had before been most violent, now sat as if struck dumb. A silence of some minutes prevailed, when all at once, the spirit of revelation seemed to come on me, and I said, "Why, gentlemen! you must be sensible that it is but an allegorical expression; and I added, how often in the Bible are kings called Gods!"

"Why yes, to be sure," said Mr. Maud and Mr. Caern, "it is an allegorical expression; nothing can be more clear; it is a metaphor, and therefore it is absurd to understand it in a literal sense." And now they, in their turn, triumphed over poor Clerk, and drank large draughts to my health. Mr. Clerk, however, had not yet exhausted his quiver, and so he desired them to explain to him a passage in the prophecy of Isaiah, where it is said in express terms, that God is a barber. Mr. Maud was so enraged at this, that he called Clerk an impudent fellow; and Mr. Caern again still more earnestly referred us to his brother, who had been forty years in the church; and who, therefore, he doubted not, would also consider Mr. Clerk as an impudent fellow, if he maintained any such abominable notions. Mr. Clerk all this while sat perfectly composed, without either a smile or a frown; but turning to a passage in Isaiah, chap. vii. v. 20, he read these words:—"In the same day the lord shall shave with a razor—the head and the hair of the feet; and it shall also consume the beard."

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if Mr. Maud and Mr. Caern were before stunned and confounded, they were much more so now; and even Mr. Caern's brother, who had been forty years in the church, seemed to have left them in the lurch, for he was no longer referred to. I broke silence a second time, and said, "Why, gentlemen, this also is clearly metaphorical, and it is equally just, strong, and beautiful." "Aye, to be sure it is," rejoined Mr. Maud and Mr. Caern both in a breath; at the same time rapping the table with their knuckles. I went on, and said; "You know it was the custom for those who were captives to have their beards shorn; the plain import then, of this remarkable expression is nothing more, than that God would deliver the rebellious Jews to be prisoners to a foreign people, who would shave their beards!" "Aye, to be sure it is; any body may see it is; why it is as clear as the day!" "so it is," rejoined Mr. Caern "and my brother, who has been forty years in the church, explains it just as this gentleman does."

We had now gained a second victory over Mr. Clerk; who being perhaps ashamed either of himself or of us, now remained quiet, and made no further objections to the Bible. My health, however, was again encored, and drank in strong ale; which, as my company seemed to like so much, I was sorry I could not like. It either intoxicated or stupified me; and I do think it overpowers one much sooner than so much wine would. The conversation now turned on many other different subjects. At last, when morning drew near, Mr. Maud suddenly exclaimed, "d——n me, I must read prayers this morning at All-Souls!" D——n me is an abbreviation of G——d d——n me; which in England, does not seem to mean more mischief or harm, than any of our or their common expletives in conversation, such as O gemini! or the duce take me!

Before Mr. Maud went away, he invited me to go and see him in the morning, and very politely offered himself to shew me the curiosities of Oxford. The rest of the company now also dispersed; and as I had once (though in so singular a manner) been introduced into so reputable a society, the people of the house made no difficulty of giving me lodging, but with great civility, shewed me a very decent bed-chamber.

I am almost ashamed to own, that next morning when I awoke, I had got so dreadful an head-ach, from the copious and numerous toasts of my jolly and reverend friends, that I could not possibly get up; still less could I wait on Mr. Maud at his college.

The inn where I was goes by the name of the Mitre. Compared to Windsor, I there found prince-like attendance. Being, perhaps, a little elevated the preceding evening, I had in the gaiety, or perhaps in the vanity of my heart, told the waiter, that he must not think, because I came on foot, that therefore I should give him less than others gave. I assured him of the contrary. It was probably not a little owing to this assurance that I had so much attention shewn to me.

I now determined to stay at least a couple of days at Oxford; it was necessary and proper, if for no other reason, yet merely that I might have clean linen. No people are so cleanly as the English, nor so particular about neat and clean linen. For, one afternoon, my shirt not having been lately changed, as I was walking through a little street, I heard two women, who were standing at a door, call after me, "look at the gentleman there! A fine gentleman indeed, who cannot afford even a clean shirt!"

I dined below with the family, and a few other persons, and the conversation in general, was agreeable enough. I was obliged to tell them many wonderful stories
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(for who are so illiterate, or insensible, as not to be delighted with the marvellous!) concerning Germany and the king of Prussia. They could not sufficiently admire my courage in determining to travel on foot, although they could not help approving of the motive. At length, however, it came out, and they candidly owned, that I should not have been received into their house, had I not been introduced as I was.

I was now confirmed in my suspicions, that, in England, any person undertaking so long a journey on foot, is sure to be looked upon, and considered as either a beggar, or a vagabond, or some necessitous wretch, which is a character not much more popular than that of a rogue; so that I could now easily account for my reception in Windsor, and at Nuneham. But, with all my partiality for this country, it is impossible, even in theory, and much less so in practice, to approve of a system which confines all the pleasures and benefits of travel to the rich. A poor peripatetic is hardly allowed even the humble merit of being honest.

As I still intended to pursue my journey to Derbyshire, I was advised (at least till I got further into the country) to take a place in a post-coach. They told me, that the further I got from London, the more reasonable and humble I should find the people; every thing would be cheaper; and every body more hospitable. This determined me to go, in the post-coach, from Oxford to Birmingham; where Mr. Pointer, of London, had recommended me to a Mr. Fothergill, a merchant there; and from thence to continue my journey on foot.

Monday I spent at Oxford, but rather unpleasantly, on account of my head-ach. Mr. Maud himself came to fetch me, as he had promised he would, but I found myself unable to go with him.

Notwithstanding this, in the afternoon, I took a little walk up an hill, which lies to the north of Oxford; and from the top of which I could see the whole city; which did not, however, appear to me nearly so beautiful and magnificent as Mr. Maud had described it to me during our last night's walk.

The colleges are mostly in the gothic taste, and much over loaded with ornaments, and built with grey stone; which, perhaps, while it is new, looks pretty well, but it has now the most dingy, dirty, and disgusting appearance, that you can possibly imagine.

Only one of these colleges is in the modern stile. The houses of the city are in general ordinary, in some parts quite miserable; in some streets they are only one story high, and have shingled roofs. To me Oxford seemed to have but a dull and gloomy look; and I cannot but wonder how it ever came to be considered as so fine a city, and next to London.

I remained on the hill, on which there was a flight of steps that led to a subterraneous walk, till sun-set, and saw several students walking here, who wore their black gowns over their coloured cloaths, and flat square hats, just like those I had seen worn by the Eton scholars. This is the general dress of all those who belong to the universities, with the exception of a very trifling difference, by which persons of high birth and rank are distinguished.

It is probably on account of these gowns, that the members of the university are called Gownsmen, to distinguish them from the citizens who are called Townsmen; and when you want to mention all the inhabitants of Oxford together, you say, "the whole town, Gownsmen and Townsmen."

This dress, I must own, pleases me far beyond the boots, cockades, and other frippery, of many of our students. Nor am I less delighted with the better behaviour and conduct which, in general, does so much credit to the students of Oxford.

The next morning Mr. Maud, according to his promise, shewed me some of the things most worthy of notice in Oxford. And first he took me to his own room in his own college, which was on the ground floor, very low and dark, and resembled a cell, at least as much as a place of study. The name of this college is *Corpus Christi*. He next conducted me to *All Soul's College*, a very elegant building, in which the chapel is particularly beautiful. Mr. Maud also shewed me, over the altar here, a fine painting of Mengs, at the sight of which, he shewed far more sensibility than I thought him possessed of. He said, that notwithstanding he saw that painting almost daily, he never saw it without being much affected.

The painting represented Mary Magdalen, when she first suddenly sees Jesus standing before her, and falls at his feet. And, in her countenance, pain, joy, grief, in short almost all the strongest of our passions, are expressed in so masterly a manner, that no man of true taste was ever tired of contemplating it; the longer it is looked at the more it is admired. He now also shewed me the library of this college, which is provided with a gallery round the top; and the whole is most admirably regulated and arranged. Among other things, I here saw a description of Oxford, with plates to illustrate it: and I cannot help observing what, though trite, is true, that all these places look much better, and are far more beautiful on paper, than they appeared to me to be, as I looked at them, where they actually stand.

Afterwards Mr. Maud conducted me to the Bodleian library, which is not unworthy of being compared to the Vatican at Rome; and next to the building, which is called the Theatre, and where the public orations are delivered. This is a circular building with a gallery all round it, which is furnished with benches one above the other, on which the doctors, masters of arts, and students sit, and directly opposite to each other, are erected two chairs, or pulpits, from which the disputants harangue and contend.

Christ Church and Queen's College are the most modern, and, I think, indisputably the best built of all the colleges. Baliol College seems particularly to be distinguished on account of its antiquity, and its complete gothic stile of building.

Mr. Maud told me that a good deal of money might be sometimes earned by preaching at Oxford; for all the members of a certain standing are obliged, in their turn, to preach in the church of the university; but many of them, when it comes to their turn, prefer the procuring a substitute; and so not unfrequently, pay as high as five or six guineas for a sermon.

Mr. Maud also told me he had been now eighteen years at this university, and might be made a doctor, whenever he chose it; he was a master of arts, and according to his own account gave lectures in his college on the classics. He also did the duty, and officiated as curate, occasionally, in some of the neighbouring villages. Going along the street, we met the English poet laureat, Warton, now rather an elderly man; and yet he is still the fellow of a college. His greatest pleasure, next to poetry, is, as Mr. Maud told me, shooting wild ducks.

Mr. Maud seemed upon the whole, to be a most worthy and philanthropic man. He told me, that where he now officiated, the clerk was dead, and had left a numerous family in the greatest distress; and that he was going to the place next day, on purpose to try if he could bring about the election of the son, a lad about sixteen years of age, in the place of his deceased father, as clerk, to support a necessitous family.

At the Mitre, the inn where I lodged, there was hardly a minute, in which some students, or others, did not call, either to drink, or to amuse themselves in conversation.

tion with the daughter of the landlord, who is not only handsome, but sensible, and well-behaved.

They often spoke to me much in praise of a German, of the name of Mitchel, at least they pronounced it so, who had for many years rendered himself famous as a musician. I was rejoiced to hear one of my countrymen thus praised by the English; and wished to have paid him a visit, but I had not the good fortune to find him at home.

Castleton, June 30th.

BEFORE I tell you any thing of the place where I now am, I will proceed regularly in my narrative, and so begin now, where I left off in my last letter. On Tuesday afternoon Mr. Maud took me to the different walks about Oxford, and often remarked, that they were not only the finest in England, but, he believed, in Europe. I own, I do not think, he over rated their merit. There is one, in particular near the river, and close to some charming meadows, behind Corpus Christi College, which may fairly challenge the world.

We here seated ourselves on a bench, and Mr. Maud drew a review from his pocket, where, among other things, a German book of professor Beckman's was reviewed, and applauded. Mr. Maud seemed, on this occasion, to shew some respect for German literature. At length we parted. He went to fill up the vacancy of the clerk's place at Dorchester, and I to the Mitre, to prepare for my departure from Oxford; which took place on Wednesday morning at three o'clock, in the post-coach. Considering the pleasing, if not kind, attention shewn me here, I own, I thought my bill not unreasonable; though to be sure, it made a great hole in my little purse.

Within this coach there was another young man; who, though dressed in black, yet to judge from the cockade in his hat might be an officer. The outside was quite full, with soldiers and their wives. The women of the lower class here, wear a kind of short cloak made of red cloth; but women in general, from the highest to the lowest, wear hats, which differ from each other less in fashion, than they do in fineness.

Fashion is so generally attended to among the English women, that the poorest maid servant, is careful to be in the fashion. They seem to be particularly so, in their hats, or bonnets, which they all wear: and they are in my opinion far more becoming than the very unsightly hoods and caps which our German women, of the rank of citizens, wear. There is, through all ranks here, not near so great a distinction between high and low, as there is in Germany.

I had, during this day, a little head ach; which rendered me more silent and reserved to my company, than is either usual in England, or natural to me. The English are taxed, perhaps too hastily, with being shy and distant to strangers. I do not think this was, even formerly, their true character; or that any such sentiment is conveyed in Virgil's "*Hospitibus ferus*." Be this as it may, the case was here reversed. The Englishman here spoke to me several times in a very friendly manner, while I testified not the least inclination to enter into conversation with him.

He however owned afterwards, that it was this very apparent reserve of mine, that first gained me his good opinion.

He said he had studied physic, but with no immediate view of practising it. His intention, he said, was to go to the East Indies, and there, first, to try his fortune as an officer,

officer. And he was now going to Birmingham, merely to take leave of his three sisters, whom he much loved, and who were at school there.

I endeavoured to merit his confidence by telling him, in my turn, of my journey on foot through England; and by relating to him a few of the most remarkable of my adventures; he frankly told me, he thought it was venturing a great deal; yet he applauded the design of my journey, and did not severely censure my plan. On my asking him why Englishmen, who were so remarkable for acting up to their own notions and ideas, did not, now and then, merely to see life in every point of view, travel on foot: O, said he, we are too rich, too lazy, and too proud.

And most true it is, that the poorest Englishman one sees, is prouder and better pleased to expose himself to the danger of having his neck broken on the outside of a stage, than to walk any considerable distance, though he might walk ever so much at his ease. I own, I was frightened and distressed, when I saw the women, where we occasionally stopped, get down from the top of the coach. One of them was actually once in much danger of a terrible fall from the roof, because, just as she was going to alight, the horses all at once unexpectedly went on. From Oxford to Birmingham is sixty-two miles; but all that was to be seen between the two places was entirely lost to me, for I was again mewed up in a post-coach, and driven along with such velocity from one place to another, that I seemed to myself as doing nothing less than travelling.

My companion, however, made me amends, in some measure, for this loss. He seemed to be an exceedingly good tempered and intelligent man; and I felt, in this short time, a prepossession in his favor, one does not easily form for an ordinary person. This, I flattered myself, was also the case with him; and it would mortify me not a little, to think he had quite forgotten me, as I am sure I shall never forget him.

Just as we had been sometime eagerly conversing about Shakespeare, we arrived, without either of us having thought of it, at Stratford upon Avon, Shakespeare's birth-place, where our coach stopped; that being the end of one stage. We were still two and twenty miles from Birmingham; and ninety-four from London. I need not tell you what our feelings were, on thus setting our feet on classic ground.

It was here that, perhaps the greatest genius nature ever produced, was born. Here he first lisped his native tongue; here first conceived the embryos of those compositions which were afterwards to charm a listening world; and on these plains the young Hercules first played. And here too, in this lowly hut, with a few friends, he happily spent the decline of his life, after having retired from the great theatre of that busy world, whose manners he had so faithfully portrayed.

The river Avon is here pretty broad; and a row of neat though humble cottages, only one story high, with shingled roofs, are ranged all along its banks. These houses impressed me strongly with the idea of patriarchal simplicity and content.

We went to see Shakespeare's own house; which, of all the houses at Stratford, I think is now the worst; and one that made the least appearance. Yet, who would not be proud to be the owner of it? There now, however, lived in it only two old people, who shew it to strangers for a trifle; and what little they earn thus is their chief income.

Shakespeare's chair, in which he used to sit before the door, was so cut to pieces that it hardly looked like a chair; for every one that travels through Stratford, cuts off a chip, as a remembrance which he carefully preserves, and deems a precious relique.

I also cut myself a piece of it; but reverencing Shakespeare as I do, I am almost ashamed to own to you, it was so small that I have lost it; and therefore you will not see it on my return.

As we travelled, I observed every spot with attention, fancying to myself, that such or such a spot might be the place where such a genius as Shakespeare's first dawned, and received those first impressions from surrounding nature, which are so strongly marked in all his works. The first impressions of childhood, I knew, were strong and permanent; of course I made sure of seeing here, some images at least of the wonderful conceptions of this wonderful man. But my imagination misled me, and I was disappointed; for I saw nothing in the country thereabouts at all striking, or in any respect particularly beautiful. It was not at all wild and romantic; but rather distinguished for an air of neatness and simplicity.

We arrived at Birmingham about three o'clock in the afternoon. I had already paid sixteen shillings at Stratford, for my place in the coach from Oxford to Birmingham. At Oxford, they had not asked any thing of me; and indeed you are not obliged in general, in England, as you are in Germany, to pay your passage before hand.

My companion and myself alighted at the inn where the coach stopped. We parted with some reluctance, and I was obliged to promise him that, on my return to London, I would certainly call on him; for which purpose he gave me his address. His father was Dr. Wilson, a celebrated author in his particular style of writing.

I now enquired for the house of Mr. Fothergill, to whom I was recommended, and I was readily directed to it; but had the misfortune to learn, at the same time, that this very Mr. Fothergill had died about eight days before. As, therefore, under these circumstances, my recommendation to him was likely to be but of little use, I had the less desire to tarry long at Birmingham: and so, without staying a minute longer, I immediately enquired the road to Derby, and left Birmingham. Of this famous manufacturing town, therefore, I can give you no account.

The road from Birmingham onwards is not very agreeable; being, in general, uncommonly sandy. Yet the same evening, I reached a little place called Sutton, where every thing, however, appeared to be too grand for me to hope to obtain lodgings in it; till quite at the end of it, I came to a small inn, with the sign of the Swan, under which was written Aulton, brick-maker.

This seemed to have something in it that suited me, and therefore I boldly went into it; and when in, I did not immediately, as heretofore, enquire if I could stay all night there, but asked for a pint of ale. I own, I felt myself disheartened, by their calling me nothing but master; and by their shewing me into the kitchen, where the landlady was sitting at a table, and complaining much of the tooth-ach. The compassion I expressed for her on this account, as a stranger, seemed soon to recommend me to her favour; and she herself asked me if I would not stay the night there? To this I most readily assented; and thus I was again happy in a lodging for another night.

The company I here met with, consisted of a female chimney-sweeper and her children; who, on my sitting down in the kitchen, soon drank to my health, and began a conversation with me and the landlady.

She related to us her history; which, I am not ashamed to own, I thought not uninteresting. She had married early, but had the hard luck to be soon deprived of her husband, by his being pressed as a soldier. She neither saw nor heard of him for many years; and so concluded he was dead. Thus destitute, she lived seven years as a servant
in

in Ireland, without any one's knowing that she was married. During this time her husband, who was a chimney-sweeper, came back to England, and settled at Litchfield, resumed his old trade, and did well in it. As soon as he was in good circumstances, he every where made enquiry for his wife, and at last found out where she was, and immediately fetched her from Ireland. There surely is something pleasing in this constancy of affection in a chimney-sweeper. She told us with tears in her eyes, in what a style of grandeur he had conducted her into Litchfield; and how, in honour to her, he made a splendid feast on the occasion. At this same Litchfield, which is only two miles from Sutton, and through which she said the road lay which I was to travel to-morrow, she still lived with this same excellent husband; where they were noted for their industry; where every body respected them, and where, though in the lowest sphere, they are passing through life neither uselessly, nor unhappily.

The landlady, during her absence, told me as in confidence, that this chimney-sweeper's husband, as meanly as I might fancy she now appeared, was worth a thousand pounds; and that without reckoning in their plate and furniture; that he always wore his silver watch; and that when he passed through Sutton, and lodged there, he paid like a nobleman.

She further remarked, that the wife was indeed rather low-lived; but that the husband was one of the best-behaved, politest, and civilest men in the world. I had myself taken notice, that this same dingy companion of mine had something singularly coarse and vulgar in her pronounciation. The word old, for example, she founded like auld. In other respects, I had not yet remarked any striking variety or difference from the pronounciation of Oxford or London.

To-morrow the chimney-sweeper, said she, her husband, would not be at home, but if I came back by the way of Litchfield, she would take the liberty to request the honour of a visit; and to this end she told me her name, and the place of her abode.

At night the rest of the family, a son and daughter of the landlady, came home, and paid all possible attention to their sick mother. I supped with the family; and they here behaved to me as if we had already lived many years together.

Happening to mention that I was, if not a scholar, yet a student, the son told me, there was at Sutton a celebrated Grammar-school, where the school-master received two hundred pounds a year settled salary, besides the income arising from the scholars.

And this was only in a village. I thought, and not without some shame and sorrow, of our Grammar-schools in Germany; and the miserable pay of the masters.

When I paid my reckoning the next morning, I observed the uncommon difference here and at Windsor, Nettlebed, and Oxford. At Oxford I was obliged to pay for my supper, bed, and breakfast, at least three shillings, and one to the waiter. I here paid for my supper, bed, and breakfast, only one shilling, and to the daughter, whom I was to consider as chamber-maid, fourpence; for which she very civilly thanked me, and gave me a written recommendation to an inn at Litchfield, where I should be well lodged, as the people in Litchfield were, in general, she said, very proud. This written recommendation was a master-piece of orthography, and shewed that in England, as well as elsewhere, there are people who write entirely from the ear, and as they pronounce. In English, however, it seems to look particularly odd; but perhaps that may be the case in all languages that are not native.

I took leave here as one does of good friends, with a certain promise, that on my return I would certainly call on them again.

At noon I got to Litchfield; an old fashioned town with narrow dirty streets, where for the first time, I saw round panes of glass in the windows. The place, to me, wore an unfriendly appearance; I therefore made no use of my recommendation, but went straight through, and only bought some bread at a baker's, which I took along with me.

At night I reached Burton, where the famous Burton Ale is brewed. By this time I felt myself pretty well tired; and therefore proposed to stay the night here. But my courage failed me, and I dropped the resolution immediately on my entering the town. The houses and every thing else, seemed to wear as grand an appearance, almost, as if I had been still in London. And yet the manners of some of its inhabitants were so thoroughly rustic and rude, that I saw them actually pointing at me with their fingers, as a foreigner. And now, to complete my chagrin and mortification, I came to a long street, where every body, on both sides of the way, were at their doors, and actually made me run the gauntlet through their enquiring looks. Some even hissed at me as I passed along. All my arguments to induce me to pluck up my courage, such as the certainty that I should never see these people again, nor they me, were of no use: Burton became odious and almost insupportable to me; and the street appeared as long, and tired me as much, as if I had walked a mile. This strongly marked contemptuous treatment of a stranger, who was travelling through their country merely from the respect he bore it, I experienced no where but at Burton.

How happy did I feel when I again found myself out of their town; although at that moment I did not know where I should find a lodging for the night, and was, besides, excessively tired. But I pursued my journey, and still kept in the road to Derby, along a foot-path which I knew to be right. It led across a very pleasant mead, the hedges of which were separated by stiles, over which I was often obliged to clamber. When I had walked some distance without meeting with an inn on the road, and it had already begun to be dark, I at last sat me down, near a small toll-house, or a turnpike-gate, in order to rest myself, and also to see whether the man at the turnpike could and would lodge me.

After I had sat here a considerable time, a farmer came riding by, and asked me where I wanted to go? I told him I was so tired that I could go no farther. On this the good natured and truly hospitable man, of his own accord, and without the least distrust, offered to take me behind him on his horse, and carry me to a neighbouring inn, where, he said, I might stay all night.

The horse was a tall one, and I could not easily get up. The turnpike-man, who appeared to be quite decrepid and infirm, on this came out. I took it for granted, however, that he who appeared to have hardly sufficient strength to support himself, could not help me. This poor looking, feeble, old man, however, took hold of me with one arm, and lifted me with a single jirk upon the horse, so quick and so alertly, that it quite astonished me.

And now I trotted on with my charming farmer, who did not ask me one single impertinent question, but set me down quietly at the inn, and immediately rode away to his own village, which lay to the left.

This inn was called the Bear, and not improperly; for the landlord went about, and growled at his people just like a bear, so that at first I expected no favourable reception. I endeavoured to gentle him a little by asking for a mug of ale, and once or twice drinking to him. This succeeded; he soon became so very civil and conversable, that I began to think him quite a pleasant fellow. This device I had learnt of the Vicar of Wakefield,

field, who always made his hosts affable, by inviting them to drink with him. It was an expedient that suited me also in another point of view, as the strong ale of England did not at all agree with me.

This inn-keeper called me sir; and he made his people lay a separate table for himself and me; for, he said, he could see plainly I was a gentleman.

In our chat, we talked much of George the second, who appeared to be his favourite king; much more so than George the third. And among other things, we talked of the battle at Dettingen, of which he knew many particulars. I was obliged also, in my turn, to tell him stories of our great king of Prussia, and his numerous armies; and also what sheep sold for in Prussia. After we had been thus talking some time chiefly on political matters, he all at once asked me if I could blow the French horn? This he supposed I could do, only because I came from Germany; for, he said, he remembered, when he was a boy, a German had once stopped at the inn with his parents, who blew the French horn extremely well. He therefore fancied this was a talent peculiar to the Germans.

I removed this error, and we resumed our political topics; while his children and servants, at some distance, listened with great respect to our conversation.

Thus I again spent a very agreeable evening; and when I had breakfasted in the morning, my bill was not more than it had been at Sutton. I at length reached the common before Derby on Friday morning. The air was mild, and I seemed to feel myself uncommonly cheerful and happy. About noon, the romantic part of the country began to open upon me. I came to a lofty eminence, where, all at once, I saw a boundless prospect of hills before me; behind which fresh hills seemed always to arise, and to be infinite.

The ground now seemed undulatory, and to rise and fall like waves; when at the summit of the rise, I seemed to be first raised aloft, and had an extensive view all around me; and the next moment, when I went down the hill, I lost it.

In the afternoon I saw Derby in the vale before me; and I was now an hundred and twenty-six miles from London. Derby is but a small, and not very considerable town. It was market-day when I got there; and I was obliged to pass through a crowd of people; but there was here no such odious curiosity, nor offensive staring as at Burton. At this place too, I took notice, that I began to be always civilly bowed to by the children of the villages through which I passed.

From Derby to the baths of Matlock, which is one of the most romantic situations, it was still fifteen miles. On my way thither, I came to a long and extensive village, which I believe was called Duffield. They here at least did not shew me into the kitchen, but into the parlour; and I dined on cold victuals.

The prints and pictures which I have generally seen at these inns, are, I think, almost always prints of the royal family, oftentimes in a group, where the king, as the father of the family, assembles his children around him; or else I have found a map of London, and not seldom the portrait of the king of Prussia; I have met with it several times. You also sometimes see some of the droll prints of Hogarth. The heat being now very great, I several times in this village heard the commiserating exclamation of "good God Almighty!" by which the people expressed their pity for me, as being a poor foot passenger.

At night I again stopped at an inn on the road, about five miles from Matlock. I could easily have reached Matlock, but I wished rather to reserve the first view of the country till the next day, than to get there when it was dark.

But

But I was not equally fortunate in this inn, as in the two former. The kitchen was full of farmers, among whom, I could not distinguish the landlord, whose health I should otherwise immediately have drank. It is true I heard a country girl, who was also in the kitchen, as often as she drank, say, "your health, gentleman all!" But I do not know how it was, I forgot to drink any one's health; which I afterwards found, was taken much amiss. The landlord drank twice to my health, sneeringly, as if to reprimand me for my incivility; and then began to join the rest in ridiculing me; who almost pointed at me with their fingers. I was thus obliged for a time, to serve the farmers as a laughing stock, till at length one of them compassionately said, "nay, nay, we must do him no harm, for he is a stranger." The landlord, I suppose, to excuse himself, as if he thought he had perhaps before gone too far, said, "ay, God forbid we should hurt any stranger," and ceased his ridicule: but when I was going to drink his health, he slighted and refused my attention, and told me with a sneer, all I had to do, was to seat myself in the chimney corner, and not trouble myself about the rest of the world. The landlady seemed to pity me; and so she led me into another room where I could be alone, saying: "what wicked people!"

I left this unfriendly roof early the next morning; and now quickly proceeded to Matlock.

The extent of my journey I had now resolved should be the great cavern near Castleton, in the high Peake of Derbyshire. It was about twenty miles beyond Matlock.

The country here had quite a different appearance, from that at Windsor and Richmond. Instead of green meadows and pleasant hills, I now saw barren mountains and lofty rocks; instead of fine living hedges, the fields and pasture lands, here, were fenced with a wall of grey stone; and of this very same stone, which is here every where to be found in plenty, all the houses are built in a very uniform and patriarchal manner, inasmuch as the rough stones are almost without any preparation, placed one upon another, and compose four walls; so that in case of necessity, a man might here, without much trouble, build himself an house. At Derby the houses seemed to be built of the same stone.

The situation of Matlock itself surpassed every idea I had formed of it. On the right were some elegant houses for the bathing company; and lesser cottages suspended like bird's nests in a high rock. To the left, deep in the bottom, there was a fine, bold river, which was almost hid from the eye, by a majestic arch, formed by high trees, which hung over it. A prodigious stone-wall extended itself above a mile along its border; and all along, there is a singularly romantic and beautiful, secret walk, sheltered and adorned by many beautiful shrubs.

The steep rock was covered at the top with green bushes; and now and then a sheep, or a cow, separated from the grazing flock, came to the edge of the precipice, and peeped over it.

I have got in Milton's *Paradise Lost*, which I am reading regularly through, just to the part where he describes Paradise, when I arrived here; and the following passage, which I read at the brink of the river, had a most striking and pleasing effect on me. The landscape here described, was as exactly similar to that I saw before me, as if the poet had taken it from hence:

" ————— delicious Paradise,
Now nearer, crowns with her enclosure green,

As

As with a rural mound, the champain head
Of a steep wilderness, whose hairy sides
With thicket overgrown, grotesque and wild,
Access denied."——— *Book IV. v. 132.*

From Matlock baths, you go over Matlock bridge, to the little town of Matlock itself, which, in reality, scarcely deserves the name of a village, as it consists of but a few and miserable houses. There is here, on account of the baths, a number of horses and carriages, and a great thoroughfare. From hence I came through some villages to a small town of the name of Bakewell. The whole country in this part is hilly and romantic. Often my way led me by small passes, over astonishing eminences, where, in the deep below me, I saw a few huts or cottages lying. The fencing of the fields with grey stone, gave the whole, a wild, and not very promising appearance. The hills were in general not wooded, but naked and barren; and you saw the flocks at a distance grazing on their summit.

As I was coming through one of the villages, I heard a great farmer's boy eagerly ask another, if he did not think I was a Frenchman. It seemed as if he had been waiting sometime, to see the wonder; for, he spoke as though his wish was now accomplished.

When I was past Bakewell, a place far inferior to Derby, I came by the side of a broad river, to a small eminence, where a fine cultivated field lay before me. This field, all at once, made an indescribable and very pleasing impression on me, which at first, I could not account for; till I recollected having seen, in my childhood, near the village where I was educated, a situation strikingly similar to that now before me, here in England.

This field, as if it had been in Germany, was not enclosed with hedges; but every spot in it was uninterruptedly diversified with all kinds of crops and growths of different green and yellowish colours, which gave the whole a most pleasing effect: but besides this large field, the general view of the country, and a thousand other little circumstances, which I cannot now particularly enumerate, served to bring back to my recollection the years of my youth.

Here I rested myself a-while; and when I was going on again, I thought of the place of my residence; on all my acquaintances, and not a little on you, my dearest friend, and imagined what you would think and say, if you were to see your friend thus wandering here all alone, totally unknown, and in a foreign land.—And at that moment I first seriously felt the idea of distance: and the thought that I was now in England, so very far from all I loved, or who loved me, produced in me such sensations, as I have not often felt.

It was perhaps the same with you, my dearest friend, when on our journey to Hamburgh, we drove from Perlshag, to your birth-place, the village of Boberow; where, among the farmers, you again found your own playmates; one of whom was now become the bailiff of the place. On your asking them, whether they knew you, one and all of them answered so heartily. "O, yes, yes — why, you are Master Frederic." The pedantic schoolmaster, you will remember, was not so frank. He expressed himself in the stiff town phrase of, "he had not the honour of knowing you; as during your residence in that village, when a child, he had not been *in loco*."

I now came through a little place of the name of Ashford, and wished to reach the small village of Wardlow, which was only three miles distant; when two men came after me, at a distance, whom I had already seen at Matlock, who called to me to wait

for them. These were the only foot passengers, since Mr Maud, who had offered to walk with me.

The one was a fadler, and wore a short brown jacket, and an apron, with a round hat. The other was very decently dressed, but a very silent man; whereas the fadler was quite talkative.

I listened with astonishment, when I heard him begin to speak of Homer, of Horace and of Virgil; and still more when he quoted several passages, by memory, from each of these authors; pronouncing the words, and laying his emphasis, with as much propriety as I could possibly have expected, had he been educated at Cambridge, or at Oxford. He advised me not to go to Wardlow, where I should find bad accommodations, but rather a few miles farther to Tideswell, where he lived. This name is, by a singular abbreviation, pronounced Tidsel, the same as Birmingham, is called by the common people Brummidgeham.

We halted at a small ale house on the road-side, where the fadler stopped to drink, and talk; and from whence he was in no haste to depart. He had the generosity and honour, however, to pay my share of the reckoning, because, as he said, he had brought me hither.

At no great distance from the house, we came to a rising ground, where my philosophical fadler made me observe a prospect, which was perhaps the only one of the kind, in England. Below us was an hollow, not unlike an huge kettle, hollowed out of the surrounding mass of earth; and at the bottom of it, a little valley, where the green meadow was divided by a small rivulet that ran in serpentine windings, its banks graced with the most inviting walks; behind a small winding, there is just seen an house where one of the most distinguished inhabitants of this happy vale, a great philosopher, lives retired, dedicating almost all his time to his favourite studies. He has transplanted a number of foreign plants into his grounds. My guide fell into almost a poetic rapture, as he pointed out to me the beauties of this vale, while our third companion, who grew tired, became impatient at our tediousness.

We were now led by a steep road to the vale, through which we passed; and then ascended again among the hills on the other side.

Not far from Tideswell, our third companion left us, as he lived in a neighbouring place. As we now at length saw Tideswell lying before us in the vale, the fadler began to give me an account of his family; adding, by way of episode, that he never quarrelled with his wife; nor had ever once threatened her with his fist, much less, ever lifted it against her. For his own sake, he said, he never called her names; nor gave her the lie. I must here observe, that it is the greatest offence you can give any one in England, to say to him, *you lie*. To be called a *liar*, is a still greater affront; and *you are a damned liar*, is the very acme of vulgar abuse.

Just as in Germany, no one will bear the name of a *scoundrel*, or *knave*; or as in all quarrels, the bestowing such epithets on our adversary is the signal for fighting; so the term of a *liar* in England, is the most offensive, and is always resented by blows. A man would never forgive himself, nor be forgiven, who could bear to be called a *liar*.

Our *Jackey* in London once looked at me with astonishment, on my happening to say to him in a joke, *you are a liar*. I assure you I had much to do, before I could pacify him.

If one may form a judgment of the character of the whole nation, from such little circumstances as this, I must say this rooted hatred of the word *liar*, appears to me to be no bad trait in the English.

But to return to my travelling companion, who further told me, that he was obliged to earn his livelihood, at some distance from home; and that he was now returning for the first time, for these two months, to his family.

He shewed me a row of trees near the town, which he said his father had planted, and which therefore he never could look at but with emotion, though he passed them often, as he went backwards and forwards, on his little journeys, to and from his birth-place. His father, he added, had once been a rich man; but had expended all his fortune to support one son. Unfortunately for himself, as well as his family, his father had gone to America, and left the rest of his children poor; notwithstanding which, his memory was still dear to him, and he was always affected by the sight of these trees.

Tideswell consists of two rows of low houses, built of rough grey stone. My guide, immediately on our entrance into the place, bade me take notice of the church, which was very handsome; and notwithstanding its age, had still some pretensions to be considered as an edifice built in the modern taste.

He now asked me, whether he should shew me to a great inn, or to a cheap one. And as I preferred the latter, he went with me himself to a small public house, and very particularly recommended me to their care, as his fellow traveller, and a clever man, not without learning.

The people here also endeavoured to accommodate me most magnificently, and for this purpose gave me some toasted cheese, which was Cheshire cheese, roasted and half melted at the fire. This, in England, it seems, is reckoned good eating, but unfortunately for me, I could not touch a bit of it. I therefore invited my landlord to partake of it, and he indeed, seemed to feast on it. As I neither drank brandy nor ale, he told me I lived far too sparingly for a foot traveller; he wondered how I had strength to walk so well, and so far.

I avail myself of this opportunity to observe that the English inn keepers are in general great ale drinkers; and for this reason, most of them are gross and corpulent: in particular, they are plump and rosy in their faces. I once heard it said of one of them, that the extravasated claret in his phiz, might well remind one, as Falstaff says of Bardolph, of hell-fire.

The next morning my landlady did me the honour to drink coffee with me, but helped me, very sparingly, to milk and sugar. It was Sunday, and I went with my landlord to a barber, on whose shop was written "shaving for a penny." There were a great many inhabitants assembled there, who took me for a gentleman, on account, I suppose, of my hat; which I had bought in London for a guinea, and which they all admired. I considered this as a proof, that pomp and finery had not yet become general thus far from London.

You frequently find in England, at many of the houses of the common people, printed papers, with sundry apt and good moral maxims and rules fastened against the room door; just as we find them in Germany. On such wretched paper, some of the most delightful and the finest sentiments may be read; such as would do honour to any writer of any country.

For instance, I read, among other things, this golden rule, on such an ordinary printed paper stuck against a room door, "Make no comparisons!" And if you consider how many quarrels, and how much mischief arise in the world, from odious comparisons of the merits of one, with the merits of another, the most delightful lessons of morality are contained in the few words of the above mentioned rule.

A man, to whom I gave sixpence, conducted me out of the town to the road leading to Castleton, which was close to a wall of stones, confusedly heaped one upon another as I have before described. The whole country was hilly and rough, and the ground covered with brown heath. Here, and there, some sheep were feeding.

I made a little digression to an hill to the left, where I had a prospect, awfully beautiful, composed, almost entirely, of naked rocks, far and near; among which, those that were entirely covered with black heath, made a most tremendous appearance.

I was now an hundred and seventy miles from London, when I ascended one of the highest hills, and all at once perceived a beautiful vale below me, which was traversed by rivers and brooks, and enclosed on all sides by hills. In this vale lay Castleton, a small town, with low houses, which takes its name from an old castle, whose ruins are still to be seen here.

A narrow path, which wound itself down the side of the rock, led me through the vale into the street of Castleton, where I soon found an inn; and also soon dined. After dinner, I made the best of my to the cavern.

A little rivulet, which runs through the middle of the town, led me to its entrance. I stood here a few moments, full of wonder, and astonishment, at the amazing height of the steep rock, before me, covered on each side with ivy and other shrubs. At its summit are the decayed wall and towers of an ancient castle which formerly stood on this rock; and at its foot, the monstrous aperture, or mouth, to the entrance of the cavern, where it is pitch dark, when one looks down, even at mid-day.

As I was standing here full of admiration, I perceived, at the entrance of the cavern, a man of a rude and rough appearance, who asked me if I wished to see the Peak; and the echo strongly reverberated his coarse voice.

Answering, as I did, in the affirmative, he next further asked me, if I should want to be carried to the other side of the stream, telling me, at the same time, what the sum would be, which I must pay for it.

This man had, along with his black stringy hair, and his dirty and tattered cloaths, such a singularly wild and infernal look, that he actually struck me as a real Charon; his voice and the questions he asked me, were not of a kind to remove this notion; so that, far from its requiring any effort of imagination, I found it not easy to avoid believing, that, at length, I had actually reached Avernus, was about to cross Acheron, and to be ferried by Charon.

I had no sooner agreed to his demand, than he told me, all I had to do, was boldly to follow him; and thus we entered the cavern.

To the left, in the entrance of the cavern, lay the trunk of a tree, that had been cut down, on which several of the boys of the town were playing.

Our way seemed to be altogether on a descent, though not steep; so that the light, which came in at the mouth of the cavern, near the entrance, gradually forsook us; and when we had gone forward a few steps farther, I was astonished by a sight, which of all other, I here the least expected: I perceived to the right, in the hollow of the cavern, a whole subterranean village, where the inhabitants, on account of its being Sunday, were resting from their work; and with happy and chearful looks, were sitting at the doors of their huts, along with their children.

We had scarcely passed these small subterranean houses, when I perceived a number of large wheels, on which, on week days, these human moles, the inhabitants of the cavern, make ropes.

I fan.

I fancied I here saw the wheel of Ixion, and the incessant labour of the Danaïdes.

The opening through which the light came, seemed, as we descended, every moment to become less and less, and the darkness at every step to increase, till at length only a few rays appeared, as if darting through a crevice, and just tinging the small clouds of smoke which, at dusk, raised themselves to the mouth of the Cavern.

This gradual growth, or increase of darkness, awakens in a contemplative mind, a soft melancholy. As you go down the gentle descent of the Cavern, you can hardly help fancying the moment is come when, without pain or grief, the thread of life is about to be snapped; and that you are now going thus quietly to that land of peace where trouble is no more.

At length the great cavern in the rock closed itself, in the same manner as heaven and earth seem to join each other, when we came to a little door, where an old woman came out of one of the huts, and brought two candles, of which we each took one.

My guide now opened the door, which completely shut out the faint glimmering of light which, till then, it was still possible to perceive, and led us to the inmost centre of this dreary temple of old Chaos and Night, as if, till now, we had only been traversing the outer courts. The rock was here so low, that we were obliged to stoop very much for some few steps, in order to get through; but how great was my astonishment, when we had passed this narrow passage and again stood upright, at once to perceive, as well as the feeble light of our candles would permit, the amazing length, breadth, and height of the Cavern; compared to which the monstrous opening through which we had already passed, was nothing.

After we had wandered here more than an hour, as beneath a dark and dusky sky, on a level sandy soil, the rock gradually lowered itself, and we suddenly found ourselves on the edge of a broad river, which, from the glimmering of our candles amid the total darkness, suggested sundry interesting reflections. To the side of this river a small boat was moored, with some straw in its bottom. Into this boat my guide desired me to step, and lay myself down in it quite flat; because, as he said, towards the middle of the river, the rock would almost touch the water.

When I had laid myself down as directed, he himself jumped into the water, and drew the boat after him.

All around us was one still, solemn, and deadly silence; and as the boat advanced, the rock seemed to stoop, and come nearer and nearer to us, till at length it nearly touched my face; and as I lay, I could hardly hold the candle upright. I seemed to myself to be in a coffin, rather than in a boat, as I had no room to stir hand or foot, till we had passed this frightful strait, and the rock rose again on the other side; where my guide once more handed me ashore.

The Cavern was now become, all at once, broad and high; and then suddenly it was again low and narrow.

I observed on both sides as we passed along, a prodigious number of great and small petrified plants and animals, which however we could not examine, unless we had been disposed to spend some days in the Cavern.

And thus we arrived at the opposite side, at the second river or stream, which, however, was not so broad as the first; as one may see across it to the other side: across this stream my guide carried me on his shoulders, because there was here no boat to carry us over.

From thence we only went a few steps farther, when we came to a very small piece of water, which extended itself length-ways; and led us to the end of the Cavern.

The path along the edge of this water, was wet and slippery, and sometimes so very narrow, that one can hardly set one foot before the other.

Notwithstanding, I wandered with pleasure on this subterranean shore, and was regaling myself with the interesting contemplation of all these various wonderful objects, in this land of darkness and shadow of death, when, all at once, something like music at a distance, sounded in mine ears.

I instantly stopped, full of astonishment; and eagerly asked my guide what this might mean? He answered, only have patience, and you shall soon see.

But as we advanced, the sounds of harmony seemed to die away; the noise became weaker and weaker; and at length it seemed to sink into a gentle hissing, or hum, like distant drops of falling rain.

And how great was my amazement when, ere long, I actually saw and felt a violent shower of rain falling from the rock, as from a thick cloud, whose drops, which now fell on our candles, had caused that same melancholy sound which I had heard at a distance.

This was what is here called a mizzling rain; which fell from the ceiling or roof of the Cavern, through the veins of the rock.

We did not dare to approach too near with our candles, as they might easily have been extinguished by the falling drops; and so we perhaps have been forced to seek our way back in vain.

We continued our march therefore along the side of the water, and often saw on the sides large apertures in the rock, which seemed to be new or subordinate caverns; all which we passed without looking into. At length my guide prepared me for one of the finest sights we had yet seen, which we should now soon behold.

And we had hardly gone on a few paces, when we entered what might easily be taken for a majestic temple, with lofty arches, supported by beautiful pillars, formed by the plastic hand of some ingenious artist.

This subterranean temple, in the structure of which no human hand had borne a part, appeared to me at that moment, to surpass all the most stupendous buildings in the world, in point of regularity, magnificence, and beauty.

Full of admiration and reverence, here, even in the inmost recesses of nature, I saw the majesty of the Creator displayed; and before I quitted this temple, here in this solemn silence and holy gloom, I thought it would be a becoming act of true religion to adore, as I cordially did, the God of nature.

We now drew near the end of our journey. Our faithful companion, the water, guided us through the remainder of the Cavern, where the rock is arched for the last time, and then sinks till it touches the water, which here forms a semi-circle, and thus the Cavern closes; so that no mortal can go one step farther.

My guide here again jumped into the water, swam a little way under the rock, and then came back quite wet, to shew me that it was impossible to go any further, unless this rock could be blown up with powder, and a second cavern opened. I now thought, all we had to do was to return the nearest way; but there were new difficulties still to encounter, and new scenes to behold still more beautiful than any I had yet seen.

My guide now turned and went back towards the left, where I followed him through a large opening in the rock.

And

And here he first asked me if I could determine to creep a considerable distance through the rock, where it nearly touched the ground? Having consented to do so, he told me I had only to follow him; warning me at the same time, to take great care of my candle.

Thus we crept on our hands and feet, on the wet and muddy ground, through the opening in the rock, which was often scarcely large enough for us to get through with our bodies.

When, at length, we had got through this troublesome passage, I saw in the Cavern, a steep hill, which was so high, that it seemed to lose itself as in a cloud, in the summit of the rock.

This hill was so wet and slippery, that as soon as I attempted to ascend, I fell down. My guide, however, took hold of my hand, and told me, I had only resolutely to follow him.

We now ascended such an amazing height, and there were such precipices on each side, that it makes me giddy even now, when I think of it.

When we at length had gained the summit, where the hill seemed to lose itself in the rock, my guide placed me where I could stand firm, and told me to stay there quietly. In the mean time he himself went down the hill with his candle, and left me alone.

I lost sight of him for some moments; but at length I perceived not him indeed, but his candle, quite in the bottom, from whence it seemed to shine like a bright and twinkling star.

After I had enjoyed this indescribably beautiful sight for some time, my guide came back, and carried me safely down the hill again on his shoulders. And as I now stood below, he went up and let his candle shine again through an opening of the rock, while I covered mine with my hand; and it was now as if on a dark night a bright star shone down upon me; a sight which, in point of beauty, far surpassed all that I had ever seen.

Our journey was now ended, and we returned, not without trouble and difficulty, through the narrow passage. We again entered the temple we had a short time before left; again heard the pattering of the rain, which sounded as rain when we were near it, but which, at a distance, seemed a sonorous, dull, and melancholy hum; and now again we returned across the quiet streams through the capacious entrance of the cavern, to the little door, where we had before taken our leave of day-light; which after so long a darkness, we now again hailed with joy.

Before my guide opened the door, he told me I should now have a view of a sight that would surpass all the foregoing. I found that he was in the right; for when he had only half opened the door, it really seemed as if I was looking into Elysium.

The day seemed to be gradually breaking, and night and darkness to have vanished. At a distance you again just saw the smoke of the cottages, and then the cottages themselves; and as we ascended, we saw the boys still playing around the hewn trunk, till at length the reddish purple stripes in the sky, faintly appeared through the mouth of the hole; yet, just as we came out, the sun was setting in the West.

Thus had I spent nearly the whole afternoon, till it was quite evening, in the cavern; and when I looked at myself, I was, as to my dress, not much unlike my guide; my shoes scarcely hung to my feet, they were so soft and so torn by walking so long on the damp sand, and the hard pointed stones.

I paid

I paid no more than half-a-crown for seeing all that I had seen, with a trifle to my guide; for it seems he does not get the half-crown, but is obliged to account for it to his master, who lives very comfortably on the revenue he derives from this Cavern; and is able to keep a man to shew it to strangers.

When I came home I sent for a shoe-maker. There was one who lived just opposite; and he immediately came to examine my shoes. He told me he could not sufficiently wonder at the badness of the work, for they were shoes I had brought from Germany. Notwithstanding this, he undertook, as he had no new ones ready, to mend them for me as well as he could. This led me to make a very agreeable acquaintance with this shoe-maker; for when I expressed to him my admiration of the Cavern, it pleased him greatly that in so insignificant a place as Castleton, there should be any thing which could inspire people with astonishment, who came from such distant countries; and thereupon offered to take a walk with me, to shew me at no great distance, the famous mountain called Mam-Tor, which is reckoned among the things of most note in Derbyshire.

This mountain is covered with verdure on its summit and sides; but at the end it is a steep precipice. The middle part does not, like other mountains, consist of rock, but of a loose earth, which gives way, and either rolls from the top of the precipice in little pieces, or tears itself loose in large masses, and falls with a thundering crash, thus forming an hill on its side which is continually encreasing.

From these circumstances probably is derived the name of *Mam Tor*, which literally signifies *Mother Hill*; for *Tor*, is either an abbreviation of, or the old word for, *Tower*; and means not only a lofty building, but any eminence. *Mam*, is a familiar term, that obtains, in all languages, for Mother; and this mountain, like a Mother, produces several other small hills.

The inhabitants here have a superstitious notion, that this mountain, notwithstanding its daily loss, never decreases, but always keeps its own, and remains the same.

My companion told me a shocking history of an inhabitant of Castleton, who laid a wager, that he would ascend this steep precipice.

As the lower part is not quite so steep, but rather slanting upwards, he could get good hold in this soft loose earth, and clambered up, without looking round. At length he had gained more than half the ascent, and was just at the part, where it projects and overlooks its basis: from this astonishing height the unfortunate man cast down his eyes, whilst the threatening point of the rock hung over him, with tottering masses of earth.

He trembled all over, and was just going to relinquish his hold, not daring to move backwards or forwards: in this manner he hung for some time between heaven and earth, surrounded by despair. However, his sinews would bear it no longer; and therefore, in an effort of despair, he once more collected all his strength, and got hold of, first, one loose stone, and then another; all of which would have failed him, had he not immediately caught hold of another. By these means, however, at length, to his own, as well as to the astonishment of all the spectators, he avoided almost instant and certain death, safely gained the summit of the hill, and won his wager.

I trembled as I heard this relation; seeing the mountain and the precipice in question so near to me, I could not help figuring to myself the man clambering up it.

Not far from hence is *Elden-Hole*, a cavity, or pit, or hole in the earth, of such a monstrous depth, that if you throw in a pebble stone, and lay your ear to the hedge of the hole, you hear it falling for a long time.

As

As soon as it comes to the bottom it emits a sound as if some one were uttering a loud sigh. The first noise it makes, on its being first parted with, affects the ear like a subterranean thunder. This rumbling, or thundering noise, continues for some time, and then decreases, as the stone falls against first one hard rock and then another, at a greater and a greater depth; and at length when it has for sometime been falling, the noise stops with a kind of whizzing, or a hissing, murmur. The people have also a world of superstitious stories relating to this place; one of which is, that some person once threw into it a goose, which appeared again, at two miles distance, in the great cavern I have already mentioned, quite stripped of its feathers. But I will not stuff my letters with many of these fabulous histories.

They reckon that they have in Derbyshire seven wonders of nature; of which, this *Elden Hole*, the hill of *Mam Tor*, and the great cavern, I have been at, are the principal. This cavern goes commonly by a name that is shockingly vulgar: in English it is called "*The Devil's Arse o' Peak*."

The remaining four wonders are *Pool's Hole*, which has some resemblance to this that I have seen, as I am told, for I did not see it; next, *St. Anne's Well*, where there are two springs, which rise close to each other; the one of which is boiling-hot, the other as cold as ice; the next is, *Tide's-well*, not far from the town of that name, through which I passed. It is a spring, or well, which in general flows or runs underground, imperceptibly, and then all at once rushes forth with a mighty rumbling or subterranean noise, which is said to have something musical in it, and overflows its banks. Lastly, *Chatsworth*, a palace, or seat, belonging to the Dukes of Devonshire, at the foot of a mountain, whose summit is covered with eternal snow, and therefore always gives one the idea of winter, at the same time that the most delightful spring blooms at its foot. I can give you no further description of these latter wonders, as I only know them by the account given me by others. They were the subjects with which my guide, the shoe-maker, entertained me during our walk.

While this man was shewing me every thing within his knowledge, that he thought most interesting, he often expressed his admiration on thinking how much of the world I had already seen; and the idea excited in him so lively a desire to travel, that I had much to do to reason him out of it. He could not help talking of it the whole evening; and again and again protested that, had he not got a wife and child, he would set off in the morning, at day-break, along with me; for here in Castleton there is but little to be earned by the hardest labour, or even genius; provisions are not cheap; and in short, there is no scope for exertion. This honest man was not yet thirty.

As we returned, he wished yet to shew me the lead mines, but it was too late. Yet, late as it was, he mended my shoes the same evening, and I must do him the justice to add, in a very masterly manner.

But I am sorry to tell you, I have brought a cough from the cavern, that does not at all please me; indeed it occasions me no little pain, which makes me suppose that one must needs breathe a very unwholesome damp air in this cavern. But then, were that the case, I do not comprehend how my friend Charon should have held it out so long, and so well, as he has.

This morning I was up very early in order to view the ruins, and to climb an high hill, along side of them. The ruins, are directly over the mouth of the hole on the hill, which extends itself some distance over the cavern, beyond the ruins, and always widens; though here in front it is so narrow, that the building takes up the whole.

From the ruins all around, there is nothing but steep rock, so that there is no access to it, but from the town, where a crooked path from the foot of the hill is hewn in the rock, but is also prodigiously steep.

The spot on which the ruins stand, is now all overgrown with nettles and thistles. Formerly, it is said, there was a bridge from this mountain, to the opposite one, of which one may yet discover some traces, as in the vale, which divides the two rocks, we still find the remains of some of the arches on which the bridge rested. This vale which lies at the back of the ruins, and probably over the cavern, is called the Cave's Way, and is one of the greatest thoroughfares to the town. In the part, at which, at some distance, it begins to descend between these two mountains, its descent is so gentle that one is not at all tired in going down it. But if you should happen to miss the way between the two rocks, and continue on the heights, you are in great danger of falling from the rock, which every moment becomes steeper and steeper.

The mountain, on which the ruins stand, is every where rocky. The one on the left of it, which is separated by the vale, is perfectly verdant and fertile, and, on its summit, the pasture lands are divided by stones, piled up in the form of a wall. This green mountain is at least three times as high as that on which the ruins stand.

I began to clamber up the green mountain, which is also pretty steep; and when I had got more than half way up without having once looked back, I was nearly in the same situation as the adventurer who clambered up Mam-Tor hill; for when I looked round, I found my eye had not been trained to view, unmoved, so prodigious an height; Castleton, with the surrounding country, lay below me, like a map; the roofs of the houses seemed almost close to the ground, and the mountain with the ruins itself, seemed to be lying at my feet.

I grew giddy at the prospect, and it required all my reason to convince me that I was in no danger, and that, at all events, I could only scramble down the green turf, in the same manner as I had got up. At length I seemed to grow accustomed to this view, till it really gave me pleasure; and I now climbed quite to the summit, and walked over the meadows, and at length reached the way, which gradually descends between the two mountains.

At the top of the green mountain I met with some neat country girls, who were milking their cows, and coming this same way with their milk-pails on their heads.

This little rural party formed a beautiful group, when some of them with their milk-pails took shelter, as it began to rain, under a part of the rock; beneath which they sat down on natural stone benches, and there, with pastoral innocence and glee, talked and laughed till the shower was over.

My way led me into the town, from whence I now write, and which I intend leaving in order to begin my journey back to London; but I think I shall not now pursue quite the same road.

Northampton.

WHEN I took my leave of the honest shoe-maker, in Castleton, who would have rejoiced to have accompanied me, I resolved to return, not by *Tide's-well*, but by *Wardlow*, which is nearer.

I there found but one single inn, and in it only a landlady, who told me that her husband was at work in the lead-mines; and that the cavern at Castleton, and all that

I had yet seen, was nothing to be compared to these lead-mines. Her husband, she said, would be happy to shew them to me.

When I came to offer to pay her for my dinner, she made some difficulty about it; because, as I had neither drank ale, or brandy, by the selling of which she chiefly made her livelihood, she said she could not well make out my bill. On this I called for a mug of ale (which I did not drink) in order to enable me the better to settle her reckoning.

At this same time I saw my innkeeper of Tideswell; who, however, had not, like me, come on foot, but prancing proudly on horseback.

As I proceeded, and saw the hills rise before me, which were still fresh in my memory, having so recently become acquainted with them, in my journey thither, I was just reading the passage, in Milton, relative to the creation, in which the Angel describes to Adam how the water subsided, and

“Immediately the mountains huge appear
Emergent, and their broad bare backs upheave
Into the clouds, their tops ascend the sky.”

Book vii. l. 285.

It seemed to me, while reading this passage, as if every thing around me were in the act of creating, and the mountains themselves appeared to emerge or rise, so animated was the scene.

I had felt something, not very unlike this, on my journey hither; as I was sitting opposite to an hill, whose top was covered with trees, and was reading in Milton the sublime description of the combat of the angels, where the fallen angels are made, with but little regard to chronology, to attack their *antagonists* with artillery and cannon, as if it had been a battle on earth, of the present age. The better angels, however, defend themselves against their *antagonists*, by each seizing on some hill, by the tufts on its summit, tearing them up by the root, and thus bearing them in their hands, to fling them at their enemy:

“——— they ran, they flew,
From their foundation loos'ning to and fro,
They pluck'd the seated hills with all their load,
Rocks, waters, woods, and by the shaggy tops
Uplifting bore them in their hands———.”

Book vi. l. 642.

I seemed to fancy to myself, that I actually saw an angel there standing and plucking up an hill before me and shaking it in the air.

When I came to the last village, before I got to Matlock, as it was now evening, and dark, I determined to spend the night there; and enquired for an inn, which, I was told, was at the end of the village. And so on I walked, and kept walking till near midnight, before I found this same inn. The place seemed to have no end. On my journey to Castleton, I must either not have passed through this village or not have noticed its length. Much tired, and not a little indisposed, I at length arrived at the inn; where I sat myself down by the fire in the kitchen, and asked for something to eat. As they told me, I could not have a bed here, I replied I absolutely would not be driven away, for that if nothing better could be had, I would sit all night by the fire. This I actually prepared to do, and laid my head on the table in order to sleep.

When the people in the kitchen thought that I was asleep, I heard them talking about me, and guessing who, or what I might be. One woman alone seemed to take my part, and said, "I dare say, he is a well-bred gentleman;" another scouted that notion, merely, because, as she said, I had come on foot; and "depend on it," "said she, "he is some poor travelling creature!" My ears yet ring with the contemptuous tone with which she uttered, "Poor travelling creature!" It seems to express all the wretchedness of one, who neither has house, nor home; a vagabond, and outcast of society.

At last, when these unfeeling people saw that I was determined, at all events, to stay there all night, they gave me a bed, but not till I had long given up all hopes of getting one. And in the morning, when they asked me a shilling for it, I gave them half-a-crown, adding, with something of an air, that I would have no change. This I did, though perhaps foolishly, to shew them, that I was not quite "*a poor creature.*" And now they took leave of me with great civility, and many excuses; and I now continued my journey much at my ease.

When I had passed Matlock, I did not go again towards Derby, but took the road to the left towards Nottingham. Here the hills gradually disappeared; and my journey now lay through meadow grounds, and cultivated fields.

I must here inform you, that the word *Peake*, or *Pike*, in old English, signifies a point or summit; the *Peak* of Derbyshire, therefore means that part of the country, which is hilly; or where the mountains are highest.

Towards noon I again came to an eminence, where I found but one single solitary inn, which had a singular inscription on its sign. It was in rhyme, and I remember only that it ended with these words, "Refresh and then go on." "Entertainment for man and horse." This I have seen on several signs, but the most common, at all the lesser ale-houses, is "A. B. C. or D. dealer in foreign spirituous liquors."

I dined here on cold meat and salad. This, or else eggs and salad, was my usual supper, and my dinner too, at the inns at which I stopped. It was but seldom that I had the good fortune to get any thing hot. The salad, for which they brought me all the ingredients, I was always obliged to dress myself. This, I believe is always done in England.

The road was now tolerably pleasant, but the country seemed here to be uniform and unvaried even to dullness. However, it was a very fine evening, and as I passed through a village, just before sun-set, several people, who met me, accosted me with a phrase which, at first, I thought odd, but which I now think civil, if not polite. As if I could possibly want information on such a point, as they passed me, they all very courteously told me "*'twas a fine evening, or a pleasant night.*"

I have also often met people who, as they passed me, obligingly and kindly asked: "*how do you do?*" To which unexpected question from total strangers, I have now learned to answer, "*pretty well I thank you, how do you do?*" This manner of address must needs appear very singular to a foreigner, who is all at once asked by a person whom he has never seen before, how he does?

After I had passed through this village, I came to a green field, at the side of which I met with an ale-house. The mistress was sitting at the window; I asked her, if I could stay the night there, she said, no! and shut the window in my face.

This unmannerliness recalled to my recollection the many receptions of this kind to which I had now so often been exposed; and I could not forbear uttering aloud my indignation at the inhospitality of the English; this harsh sentiment I soon corrected, however, as I walked on, by recollecting, and placing in the opposite scale, the un-

bounded and unequalled generosity of this nation : and also the many acts of real and substantial kindness, which I had myself experienced in it.

I at last came to another inn, where there was written on the sign : " The Navigation Inn ;" because it is the *dépôt*, or store-house of the colliers of the Trent.

A rougher or ruder kind of people I never saw than these colliers, whom I here met assembled in the kitchen, and in whose company I was obliged to spend the evening.

Their language, their dress, their manners, were, all of them, singularly vulgar and disagreeable ; and their expressions still more so : For, they hardly spoke a word, without adding, " a G—d d—— me" to it, and thus cursing, quarrelling, drinking, singing, and fighting, they seemed to be pleased, and to enjoy the evening. I must do them the justice to add, that none of them, however, at all molested me, or did me any harm. On the contrary, every one again and again drank my health, and I took care not to forget to drink theirs in return. The treatment of my host at Matlock was still fresh in my memory ; and so, as often as I drank, I never omitted saying, " Your healths gentlemen all !"

When two Englishmen quarrel, the fray is carried on, and decided, rather by actions than by words ; though loud and boisterous, they do not say much, and frequently repeat the same thing over and over again, always clinching it with an additional " G—d— you !" Their anger seems to overpower their utterance, and can vent only by coming to blows.

The landlady, who sat in the kitchen along with all this goodly company, was nevertheless well dressed, and a remarkably well looking woman. As soon as I had supped, I hastened to bed, but could not sleep ; my quondam companions, the colliers, made such a noise the whole night through.—In the morning, when I got up, there was not one to be seen, nor heard.

I was now only a few miles from Nottingham, where I arrived towards noon.

This, of all the towns I have yet seen, except London, seemed to me to be one of the best ; and is undoubtedly the cleanest. Every thing here wore a modern appearance, and a large place in the centre, scarcely yielded to a London square, in point of beauty.

From the town a charming foot-path leads you across the meadows to the high-road, where there is a bridge over the Trent. Not far from this bridge was an inn, where I dined, though I could get nothing but bread and butter, of which I desired to have a toast made.

Nottingham lies high, and made a beautiful appearance at a distance, with its neat high houses, red roofs, and its lofty steeples. I have not seen so fine a prospect, in any other town in England.

I now came through several villages, as Ruddington, Bradmore and Buny, to Castol, where I stayed all night.

This whole afternoon I heard the ringing of bells in many of the villages. Probably, it is some holiday which they thus celebrate. It was cloudy weather, and I felt myself not at all well : and in these circumstances this ringing discomposed me still more ; and made me at length quite low-spirited and melancholy.

At Castol there were three inns close to each other, in which, to judge only from the outside of the houses, little but poverty was to be expected. In the one at which I at length stopped there was only a landlady, a sick butcher, and a sick carter, both of whom had come to stay the night. This assemblage of sick persons gave me the
idea

idea of an hospital, and depressed me still more. I felt some degree of fever, was very restless all night, and so I kept my bed very late the next morning, until the woman of the house came and aroused me, by saying she had been uneasy on my account. And now I formed the resolution to go to Leicester in the post-coach.

I was now only four miles from Loughborough, a small, and I think, not a very handsome town, where I arrived late at noon, and dined at the last inn on the road that leads to Leicester. Here again, far beyond expectation, the people treated me like a gentleman, and let me dine in the parlour.

From Loughborough to Leicester, was only ten miles; but the road was sandy and very unpleasant walking.

I came through a village called *Mountforrel*, which perhaps takes its name from a little hill at the end of it. As for the rest, it was all one large plain, all the way to Leicester.

Towards evening I came to a pleasant meadow just before I got to Leicester, through which a foot-path led me to the town, which made a good appearance as I viewed it lengthways, and indeed much larger than it really is.

I went up a long street before I got to the house from which the post-coaches set out, and which is also an inn. I here learnt that the stage was to set out that evening for London, but that the inside was already full; some places were however still left on the outside.

Being obliged to bestir myself to get back to London, as the time drew near, when the Hamburg captain, with whom I intend to return, had fixed his departure, I determined to take a place as far as Northampton on the outside.

But this ride from Leicester to Northampton, I shall remember as long as I live.

The coach drove from the yard through a part of the house. The inside passengers got in, in the yard; but we on the outside were obliged to clamber up in the public street, because we should have had no room for our head to pass under the gateway.

My companions on the top of the coach, were a farmer, a young man very decently dressed, and a black-a-moor.

The getting up alone was at the risk of one's life; and when I was up, I was obliged to sit just at the corner of the coach, with nothing to hold by, but a sort of little handle, fastened on the side. I sat nearest the wheel; and the moment that we set off, I fancied that I saw certain death await me. All I could do, was to take still safer hold of the handle, and to be more and more careful to preserve my balance.

The machine now rolled along with prodigious rapidity, over the stones through the town, and every moment we seemed to fly into the air; so that it was almost a miracle, that we still stuck to the coach, and did not fall. We seemed to be thus on the wing, and to fly, as often as we passed through a village, or went down an hill.

At last the being continually in fear of my life, became insupportable, and as we were going up a hill, and consequently proceeding rather slower than usual, I crept from the top of the coach, and got snug into the basket.

"O, fir, fir, you will be shaken to death!" said the black; but I flattered myself, he exaggerated the unpleasantness of my post.

As long as we went up hill, it was easy and pleasant. And, having had little or no sleep the night before, I was almost asleep among the trunks and the packages; but how was the case altered when we came to go down hill; then all the trunks and parcels began, as it were, to dance around me, and every thing in the basket seemed to be

be alive, and I every moment received from them such violent blows, that I thought my last hour was come. I now found that what the black had told me, was no exaggeration; but all my complaints were useless. I was obliged to suffer this torture nearly an hour, till we came to another hill again, when quite shaken to pieces and badly bruised, I again crept to the top of the coach, and took possession of my former seat. "Ah, did not I tell you, that you would be shaken to death?" said the black, as I was getting up; but I made him no reply. Indeed I was ashamed; and I now write this as a warning to all strangers to stage-coaches who may happen to take it into their heads, without being used to it, to take a place on the outside of an English post-coach; and still more, a place in the basket.

About midnight we arrived at Harborough, where I could only rest myself a moment, before we were again called to set off, full drive, through a number of villages, so that a few hours before day-break we had reached Northampton, which is, however, thirty three miles from Leicester.

From Harborough to Leicester, I had a most dreadful journey, it rained incessantly; and as before we had been covered with dust, we now were soaked with rain. My neighbour, the young man who sat next me in the middle, that my inconveniences might be complete, every now and then fell asleep; and as, when asleep, he perpetually bolted and rolled against me, with the whole weight of his body, more than once he was very near pushing me entirely off my seat.

We at last reached Northampton, where I immediately went to bed, and have slept almost till noon. To-morrow morning I intend to continue my journey to London in some other stage-coach.

London, 15th July, 1782.

THE journey from Northampton to London I can again hardly call a journey; but rather a perpetual motion, or removal from one place to another, in a close box; during your conveyance you may, perhaps, if you are in luck, converse with two or three people shut up along with you.

But I was not so fortunate; for my three travelling companions were all farmers, who slept so soundly, that even the hearty knocks of the head with which they often saluted each other, did not awake them.

Their faces, bloated and discoloured by their copious use of ale and brandy, looked, as they lay before me, like so many lumps of dead flesh. When now and then they woke, sleep, in which they all dealt, was the first and last topic of their conversation. One of the three, however, differed not a little from the other two; his face was fallow and thin, his eyes quite sunk and hollow, his long lank fingers hung quite loose, and as if detached from his hands. He was, in short, the picture of avarice and misanthropy. The former he certainly was; for at every stage he refused to give the coachman the accustomed perquisite, which every body else paid; and every farthing he was forced to part with, forced a *G—d d——n* from his heart. As he sat in the coach, he seemed anxious to shun the light; and so shut up every window that he could come at, except when now and then I opened them, to take a slight view of the charms of the country through which we seemed to be flying, rather than driving.

Our road lay through Newport-Pagnell, Dunstable, St. Alban's, Barnet, to Islington, or rather to London itself. But these names are all I know of the different places.

At

At Dunstable, if I do not mistake, we breakfasted; and here, as is usual, every thing was paid for in common by all the passengers; as I did not know this, I ordered coffee separately; however, when it came, the three farmers also drank of it, and gave me some of their tea.

They asked me what part of the world I came from; whereas we in Germany generally inquired, what countryman a person is.

When we had breakfasted, and were again seated in the coach, all the farmers, the lean one excepted, seemed quite alive again, and now began a conversation on religion and on politics.

One of them brought the history of Samson on the carpet, which the clergyman of his parish, he said, had lately explained, I dare say, very satisfactorily; though this honest farmer still had a great many doubts about the great gate which Samson carried away, and about the foxes with the fire-brands between their tails. In other respects, however, the man seemed not to be either uninformed or sceptical.

They now proceeded to relate to each other various stories, chiefly out of the Bible; not merely as important facts, but as interesting narratives, which they would have told and listened to with equal satisfaction had they met them any where else. One of them had only heard these stories from his minister in the church, not being able to read them himself.

The one that sat next to him, now began to talk about the Jews of the Old Testament, and assured us that the present race were all descended from those old ones. "Aye, and they are all damned to all eternity!"—said his companion, as coolly and as confidently as if at that moment, he had seen them burning in the bottomless pit.

We now frequently took up fresh passengers, who only rode a short distance with us, and then got out again. Among others was a woman from London, whose business was the making of brandy. She entertained us with a very circumstantial narrative of all the shocking scenes during the late riot in that city. What particularly struck me was her saying, that she saw a man, opposite to her house, who was so furious, that he stood on the wall of a house that was already half burnt down, and there, like a daemon, with his own hands, pulled down and tossed about the bricks which the fire had spared, till at length he was shot, and fell back among the flames.

At length we arrived at London without any accident, in a hard rain, about one o'clock. I had been obliged to pay sixteen shillings before-hand at Northampton, for the sixty miles to London. This the coachman seemed not to know for certain, and therefore asked me more earnestly, if I was sure I had paid: I assured him I had; and he took my word.

I looked like a crazy creature when I arrived in London; notwithstanding which, Mr. Pointer, with whom I left my trunk, received me in the most friendly manner, and desired me during dinner to relate to him my adventures.

The same evening I called on Mr. Leonhardi, who, as I did not wish to hire a lodging for the few days I might be obliged to wait for a fair wind, got me into the Freemasons' tavern. And here I have been waiting these eight days, and the wind still continues contrary for Hambro'; though I do now most heartily wish for a fair wind, as I can no longer make any improvement by my stay, since I must keep myself in constant readiness to embark whenever the wind changes; and therefore I dare go no great distance.

Every

Every body here is now full of the marquis of Rockingham's death, and the change of the ministry in consequence of it. They are much displeased that Fox has given up his seat; and yet it is singular, they still are much concerned, and interest themselves for him, as if whatever interested him were the interest of the nation.

On Tuesday there was an highly important debate in Parliament. Fox was called on to assign the true reasons of his resignation before the nation. At eleven o'clock the gallery was so full, that no body could get a place; and the debates only begin at three, and lasted this evening till ten.

About four, Fox came. Every one was full of expectation. He spoke at first with great vehemence; but it was observed that he gradually became more and more moderate, and when at length he had vindicated the step he had taken, and shewed it to be, in every point of view, just, wise, and honourable,—he added, with great force and pathos, “and now I stand here once more, as poor as ever I was.” It was impossible to hear such a speech and such declarations unmoved.

General Conway then gave his reasons, why he did not resign; though he was of the same political principles as Mr. Fox and Mr. Burke; he was of the same opinion with them in regard to the independency of America; the more equal representation of the people in parliament, and the regulations necessary in Ireland: but he did not think the present minister, lord Shelburne, would act contrary to those principles. As soon as he did, he should likewise resign; but not before.

Burke now stood up and made a most elegant, though florid speech, in praise of the late marquis of Rockingham. As he did not meet with sufficient attention, and heard much talking and many murmurs, he said, with much vehemence, and a sense of injured merit, “*this is not* treatment for so old a member of parliament as I am, and I will be heard!”—On which there was immediately a most profound silence. After he had said much more in praise of Rockingham, he subjoined, that with regard to general Conway's remaining in the ministry, it reminded him of a fable he had heard in his youth, of a wolf, who, on having cloathed himself as a sheep, was let into the fold by a lamb; who indeed did say to him, where did you get those long nails, and those sharp teeth, mamma? But nevertheless let him in; the consequence of which was, he murdered the whole flock. Now with respect to general Conway, it appeared to him, just as though the lamb certainly did perceive the nails and teeth of the wolf, but notwithstanding, was so good-tempered to believe that the wolf would change his nature, and become a lamb. By this, he did not mean to reflect on lord Shelburne; only of this he was certain, that the present administration was a thousand times worse, than that under lord North, (who was present.)

When I heard Mr. Pitt speak, for the first time, I was astonished, that a man of so youthful an appearance should stand up at all: but I was still more astonished to see how, while he spoke, he engaged universal attention. He seems to me not to be more than one and twenty. This same Pitt is now minister, and even chancellor of the Exchequer.

It is shocking to a foreigner, to see what violent satires on men, rather than on things, daily appear in the newspapers; of which they tell me there are at least a dozen, if not more, published every day. Some of them side with the ministry, and still more I think with the opposition. A paper that should be quite impartial, if that were possible, I apprehend, would be deemed so insipid as to find no readers. No longer ago than yesterday, it was mentioned in one of these newspapers, that when Fox who is fallen, saw so young a man as Pitt made the minister, he exclaimed with

Satan, who, in *Paradise Lost*, on perceiving the man approved by God, called out, "O hateful sight!"

On Thursday the king went with the usual solemnity to prorogue the parliament for a stated time. But I pass this over as a matter that has already been so often described,

I have also, during this period, become acquainted with baron Grothaus, the famous walker, to whom I had also a letter of recommendation from baron Groote of Hambro'. He lives in Chesterfield-house, not far from general Paoli, to whom he has promised to introduce me, if I have time to call on him again.

I have suffered much this week from the violent cough I brought with me from the hole in Derbyshire, so that I could not for some days stir; during which time Messrs. Schonborn and Leonhardi have visited me very attentively, and contributed much to my amendment.

I have been obliged to relate as much about my journey out of London, here, as I probably shall in Germany, of all England in general.—To most people to whom I give an account of my journey, what I have seen is quite new. I must, however, here insert a few remarks on the elocution, or manner of speaking of this country, which I had forgot before to write to you.

English eloquence appears to me not to be nearly so capable of so much variety and diffusion as ours is.—Add to this, in their parliamentary speeches; in sermons in the pulpit; in the dialogues on the stage; nay, even in common conversation, their periods at the end of a sentence are always accompanied by a certain singular uniform fall of the voice; which, notwithstanding its monotony, has in it something so peculiar, and so difficult, that I defy any foreigner ever completely to acquire it. Mr. Leonhardi, in particular, seemed to me in some passages which he repeated out of Hamlet, to have learnt to sink his voice in the true English manner; yet any one might know from his speaking, that he is not an Englishman. The English place the accent oftener on the adjectives than they do on the substantive, which, though undoubtedly the most significant word in any sentence, has frequently less stress laid on it, than you hear laid on mere epithets. On the stage they pronounce the syllables and words extremely distinct, so that at the theatres you may always gain most instruction in English elocution and pronunciation.

This kingdom is remarkable for running into dialect; even in London they are said to have one. They say for example, *it a'nt*, instead of *it is not*; *I don't know*, for *I do not know*; *I don't know him*, for *I do not know him*; the latter of which phrases has often deceived me, as I mistook a negative for an affirmative.

The word *sir*, in English, has a great variety of significations. With the appellation of *sir*, an Englishman addresses his *king*, his *friend*, his *foe*, his *servant*, and his *dog*; he makes use of it when asking a question politely; and a member of parliament, merely to fill up a vacancy, when he happens to be at a loss. *Sir?* In an enquiring tone of voice, signifies what is your desire?—*Sir!* in an humble tone—gracious sovereign!—*Sir!* in a surly tone, a box on the ear at your service! To a dog it means a good beating.—And in a speech in parliament, accompanied by a pause, it signifies, I cannot now recollect what it is I wish to say farther.

I do not recollect to have heard any expression repeated oftener than this, *never mind it!*—A porter one day fell down, and cut his head on the pavement: "O, never mind it!" said an Englishman who happened to be passing by. When I had my trunk fetched from the ship in a boat, the waterman rowed among the boats, and his boy, who stood at the head of his boat, got a sound drubbing, because the

others would not let him pass: "O never mind it!" said the old one, and kept rowing on.

The Germans who have been here any time, almost constantly make use of Anglicisms, such as *es will nicht thun*, it will not do, for instead of *es ist nicht hinlanglich*, it is not sufficient, and many such. Nay some even say, *Ich habe es nicht geminded*, I did not mind it, instead of *ich habe mich nicht daran errannest, oder daran gedacht*, I did not recollect it, or I did not think of it.

You can immediately distinguish Englishmen when they speak German, by their pronunciation according to the English manner; instead of *Ich befinde mich wohl*, they say, *Ich befirmich u'ohl*, I am very well, the *w* being as little noticed as *u* quickly sounded.

I have often heard, when directing any one in the street, the phrase; "go down the street as far as ever you can go, and ask any body." Just as we say, "every child can direct you."

I have already noticed in England they learn to write a much finer hand than with us. This probably arises from their making use of only one kind of writing, in which the letters are all so exact, that you would take it for print.

In general, in speaking, reading, in their expressions, and in writing, they seem in England, to have more decided rules than we have. The lowest man expresses himself in proper phrases, and he who publishes a book, at least writes correctly, though the matter be ever so ordinary. In point of style, when they write, they seem to be all of the same country, profession, rank, and station.

The printed English sermons are, beyond all question, the best in the world; yet I have sometimes heard sad miserable stuff from their pulpits. I have been in some churches where the sermons seemed to have been transcribed or compiled from essays and pamphlets; and the motley composition, after all, very badly put together. It is said that there are a few in London, by whom some of the English clergy are supposed to get their sermons made for money.

London, 18th July.

I WRITE to you now for the last time from London; and, what is still more, from St. Catherine's, one of the most execrable holes in all this great city, where I am obliged to stay, because the great ships arrive in the Thames here, and go from hence, and we shall sail as soon as the wind changes; this it has just now done; yet still it seems we shall not sail till to-morrow. To-day therefore I can still relate to you all the little that I have farther noticed.

On Monday morning I moved from the Free-masons' tavern to a public-house here, of which the master is a German; and where all the Hambro' captains lodge. At the Free-masons' tavern, the bill for eight days lodging, breakfast, and dinner, came to one guinea and nine shillings, and nine-pence. Breakfast, dinner, and coffee, were always with distinction, reckoned a shilling each. For my lodging I paid only twelve shillings a-week; which was certainly cheap enough.

At the German's house here in St. Catherine's, on the contrary, every thing is more reasonable, and you here eat, drink, and lodge, for half-a-guinea a-week. Notwithstanding, however, I would not advise any body who wishes to see London, to lodge here long; for St. Catherine's is one of the most out-of-the-way and inconvenient places in the whole town.

He who lands here first sees this miserable narrow dirty street, and this mass of ill-built,

built, old, ruinous houses; and of course forms, at first sight, no very favourable idea of this beautiful and renowned city.

From Bullstode-street, or Cavendish-square, to St. Catherine's, is little less than half a day's journey. Nevertheless Mr. Schonborn has daily visited me since I have lived here; and I have always walked back half way with him. This evening we took leave of each other near St. Paul's, and this separation cost me not a few tears.

I have had a very agreeable visit this afternoon from Mr. Hansen, one of the assistants to the *Zollner book for all ranks of men*, who brought me a letter from the Rev. Mr. Zollner at Berlin, and just arrived at London when I was going away. He is going on business to Liverpool. I have these few days past, for want of better employment, walked through several parts of London that I had not before seen. Yesterday I endeavoured to reach the west end of the town; and I walked several miles, when finding it was grown quite dark, I turned back quite tired, without having accomplished my end.

Nothing in London makes so disgusting an appearance to a foreigner, as the butchers' shops, especially in the environs of the Tower. Guts and all the nastiness are thrown into the middle of the street, and cause an insupportable stench.

I have forgot to describe the 'Change to you: this beautiful building is a long square, in the centre of which is an open area, where the merchants assemble. All round, there are covered walks supported by pillars, on which the name of the different commercial nations you may wish to find are written up, that among the crowd of people you may be able to find each other. There are also stone benches made under the covered walks, which after a ramble from St. Catherine's, for example hither, are very convenient to rest yourself.

On the walls all kinds of hand-bills are stuck up; among others I read one of singular contents. A clergyman exhorted the people not to assent to the shameful act of parliament for the toleration of catholics, by suffering their children, to their eternal ruin, to be instructed and educated by them; but rather to give him, an orthodox clergyman, of the church of England, this employ, and this emolument.

In the middle of the area is a stone statue of Charles the Second. As I sat here on a bench, and gazed on the immense crowds that people London, I thought, that as to mere dress and outward appearance, these here did not seem to be materially different from our people at Berlin.

Near the 'Change is a shop, where, for a penny or even a halfpenny only, you may read as many newspapers as you will. There are always a number of people about these shops, who run over the paper as they stand, pay their halfpenny, and then go on.

Near the 'Change there is a little steeple with a set of bells, which have a charming tone, but they only chime one or two lively tunes, though in this part of the city, you constantly hear bells ringing in your ears.

It has struck me that in London there is no occasion for any elementary works or prints, for the instruction of children. One need only lead them into the city, and shew them the things themselves as they really are. For here it is contrived as much as possible, to place in view for the public inspection, every production of art, and every effort of industry. Paintings, mechanisms, curiosities of all kinds, are here exhibited in the large and light shop windows, in the most advantageous manner; nor are spectators wanting, who here and there, in the middle of the street, stand still to observe any curious performance. Such a street seemed to me to resemble a well regulated cabinet of curiosities.

But the squares, where the finest houses are, disdain and reject all such shews and ornaments, which are adapted only to shop-keepers' houses. The squares, moreover,

are not nearly so crowded or so populous, as the streets and the other parts of the city. There is nearly as much difference between these squares and the Strand in London, in point of population and bustle, as there is between Mill-bank and Frederick's-stadt in Berlin.

I do not at present recollect any thing further, my dear friend, worth your attention, which I can now write to you, except that every thing is ready for our departure to-morrow. I paid captain Hilkes, with whom I came over from Hambro', four guineas for my passage and my board in the cabin. But captain Braunschweig, with whom I am to return, charges me five guineas; because provisions, he says, are dearer in London than at Hambro'. I now have related to you all my adventures and all my history from the time that I took leave of you in the street; my voyage hither with captain Hilkes excepted. Of this all that I think it necessary to mention is, that, to my great dissatisfaction, it lasted a fortnight, and three days I was sea-sick. Of my voyage back I will give you a personal account. And now remember me to Biester, and farewell till I see you again.

TWO SUCCESSIVE TOURS THROUGHOUT THE WHOLE OF WALES, WITH SEVERAL OF THE ADJACENT ENGLISH COUNTIES; SO AS TO FORM A COMPREHENSIVE VIEW OF THE PICTURESQUE BEAUTY, THE PECULIAR MANNERS, AND THE FINE REMAINS OF ANTIQUITY, IN THAT INTERESTING PART OF THE BRITISH ISLAND. BY HENRY SKRINE, ESQ. OF WARLEY, IN SOMERSETSHIRE, AUTHOR OF THREE SUCCESSIVE TOURS IN THE NORTH OF ENGLAND AND SCOTLAND, IN 1795.

PREFACE.

EMBOLDENED by the perhaps too partial approbation bestowed by some of his friends on his former performance, the author is induced to offer the following tours to their inspection, and that of the public. Like those in the north of England and Scotland, they were not written originally with the design of being printed, and though now presented in the shape of an uniform course of travels, they have really been pursued in distinct parts, and at different periods of time, as the leisure of successive summers gave a favourable opportunity. This difference of years in which the several parts were written must answer for such irregularity of style as may strike an observer in the course of this work. Where the description is meant to be general, the present tense is commonly used, but the past is often preferred where the appearance of things (as in the course of travel) is alluded to. In matters of observation and opinion, the singular number is often adopted, but the plural is more commonly used in description, except where the author was actually alone; each of these, however, is frequently changed, to give animation to some particular scene, and to avoid the prolixity of an uniform narrative. Some apology may perhaps also be necessary for various repetitions of epithets and other little inaccuracies, which have escaped the author's observation, who has not been much in the habit of correcting for the press.

The subjects of these travels covers a highly interesting tract of country, abounding in beauties and curiosities; which, though frequently described by abler pens, has perhaps scarcely ever been so thoroughly pervaded in all its parts, or so comprehensively treated. In this circumstance would the author wish to place the merit of the work (if such may any where be allowed to exist), for he is sensible that the antiquarian, the moralist, and even the picturesque traveller, may in their treatises have been amply successful, but it has generally happened that they have confined themselves chiefly to one or other of these objects, and few have had the patience or opportunity to intersect the country to and fro sufficiently, so as to gain a complete view of the whole. Even in the present instance, it is too much to say that this has been effected perfectly, and the author is fully aware that various points may have escaped him, though possibly not any of considerable importance; he is also sensible that he may occasionally have been misled, in the names of hills and other local circumstances, by the imperfect information he could collect in some remote quarters, and in consequence of his not being much conversant with the Welch language.

The first of these tours is devoted to the description of south Wales, and begins with the views from the Cotswold hills in Gloucestershire, where the approach to that country naturally opens. After coasting the Severn from Gloucester to Newnham,
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and traversing the forest of Dean, it pursues the navigation of the Wye from Ross to Monmouth and Chepstowe, and after visiting the two passage houses on the Bristol channel, pervades Monmouthshire in various parts, so as to include nearly the whole of that fine county, with its capital. From Abergavenny it enters Brecknockshire, and after pursuing the Uske almost to its source beyond Brecknock, it descends by the works of Merthyr-Tydvil to the Pont-i-prydd, in the vale of Taaffe in Glamorganshire, from whence by Caerphilli castle, crossing again through a corner of Monmouthshire it takes the coast road with little deviations by Cardiffe, Cowbridge, and Swansea, to Tenby in Pembrokeshire. That extreme county, unlike the rest of South Wales both in its appearance and its inhabitants, offers a variety of objects in the scenery attendant on Milford-haven, the towns and castles of Pembroke and Haverfordwest, and the superb ruins of Saint David's. From thence the coast is pursued as far as Fisguard, and the tour then takes an inland direction by Narbeth and Caermarthen, the two fine vales of the Towy, and the pass of Cwm-Dwr, to Brecknock; it then returns to Llanymdover by Builth, Llandrindod and Llanwrtd wells, and enters Cardiganshire at Llanbeder. From Cardigan, after visiting Kilgarren castle, it again reaches the coast, which it follows with little variation to Aberystwith, from whence it turns inland by the banks of the Rhydol and the Ystwith to the romantic scenery about the Devil's bridge and Havod; then crossing the mountains from Cwm-ystwith to Rhyadergowy, it penetrates through the interior of Radnorshire by Knighton, Presteigne, Kington, and Radnor, and approaches England by the course of the Wye through its beautiful vale from Builth to the Hay. The rich plains of Herefordshire succeed, and the reader is conducted by Hereford and Ledbury over the Malvern hills to Worcester, where this part of the travel naturally ends.

The tour of North Wales begins at that city, and taking a short compass of the vale of Evesham, includes many of the ornamented seats and towns of Warwickshire, Worcestershire, and Staffordshire, with Bridgnorth and the works of Colebrooke dale, in its approach to Shrewsbury. It then makes a slight deviation to visit the beautiful display of Hawkestone, and crossing the plain of Shropshire, enters North Wales from Oswestry, near Chirk castle; by which place, Wynne-stay and Wrexham, it reaches the curious old city of Chester. The coast and the interior of the little county of Flint succeed, and from Holy-well the descent is made into the beautiful vale of Clwydd, extending from the south of Ruthyn to Denbigh, and the sea beyond Saint Asaph. The vale and river Conway are then traced from its mouth to Llanrwst and the falls among the mountains near its source, and the return is made on the opposite bank to Conway. The pass of Penmanmawr and Bangor ferry conduct the reader into Anglesea, where Beaumaris, Holyhead, and the Paris mountain, form the principal objects. The Menai straits then lead to Caernarvon, from whence an expedition is made towards the horn of the Caernarvonshire coast which commands the bay of Cardigan, and the towns of Pwlwhelli, Crickheath, and Penmorva. Great part of the Snowdonia is afterwards traversed, and the enchanting valley of Festiniog is approached by the stupendous rocks and pass of the Pont-Aberglaslyn; from the charming spot of Tan-y-bwlch excursions are made to visit several points in the valley, and the proud castle of Harlech on the coast. Dolgelly is then approached by various grand objects in the wilds of Merionethshire, and the æstuary of the Mawdoch from thence to Barmouth, discloses a wonderful display beneath the northern base of the mighty mountain of Cader-Idris. The tour then takes an inland direction by the lake of Bala, the romantic territory of Owen Glendwr near Corwen, and the beautiful valley of the Dee to Llan-

Llangollen, with the picturesque ruin of Vale Crucis abbey. A long tract over the Denbighshire Berouin afterwards conducts the reader to Llanrhaidr and the cataract of Pistill-Rhaidr; by Llanvilling it approaches the stream of the upper Severn, and its banks are pursued through the rich vale of Montgomeryshire to Newtown and Llanidloes, near its source. Passing near the origin of the Wye, and almost under the base of Plinlimmon, this tour meets the former of South Wales at the Devil's bridge in Cardiganshire, and making a little curve by the Ystwith and Tivy to visit Strata Florida abbey, recrosses it to reach Llanbadern Vawr; soon after which it re-enters North Wales, taking a sweep by the banks of the Dovey to Machynleth, Dinasmonthy, and the mountains which form the southern base of Cader-Idris. Turning inland again at Malwydd, it passes the hills by Cann's office and Llanvair to return to the Severn, and crossing its vale to Montgomery, quits North Wales finally to approach Bishop's castle and Ludlow in Shropshire, from whence it pursues the direct line towards Radnorshire and Brecknockshire, by Leominster and Weobly in Herefordshire, thus completing the circle.

Such is the outline pursued in these travels, to which the author has added a table of the contents of each chapter by way of index, the want of which in his former work was properly suggested in the comment made by some very liberal reviewers. The most commodious map he can recommend to follow them with, is Carey's large map of England and Wales, (which may be procured either in a book or a sheet), and which contains almost all the objects with sufficient accuracy. Evans's Survey of North Wales, both in its large and small edition, is an excellent performance, but there is as yet no special map of South Wales, that is worthy of being compared with it. From lord Littelton's elegant but short descriptions, and Mr. Wyndham's pleasing Tour of Wales, the author derived much entertainment and agreeable information when he first visited that country; in points of history, principally as regarding the ancient buildings both religious and civil, Grose's Antiquities, and Mr. Gough's valuable edition of Camden's Britannia, will prove the best guides, together with Mr. Pennant's very accurate and excellent work.

With these powerful assistants the reader cannot fail to traverse Wales with pleasure, whatever may be the fate of the present imperfect performance, in which the author's principal aim has been, to comprehend all that could fall within its compass, and to convey a faithful idea of the impression made by the several scenes on his mind. He has often lamented here, as before in Scotland, that the effusions of the pencil could not illustrate those of the pen, but that art has been denied him. In his observations on the inhabitants of either division of Wales, he has endeavoured to be candid and impartial; and the reason that he draws his personal characters and instances of hospitality chiefly from South Wales must be referred to his peculiar connexions, and the opportunities he has had of forming acquaintances in that portion of the principality. Slight indeed is the perceivable difference between the inhabitants of the two countries, the same attachments prevailing in each, the like eminent virtues (attended with similar shades of defects) pervading both, and one ingenious and ardent spirit animating the whole people.

CHAP. I.—*Descent of the Cotteswold Hills.—Glocester.—Great Vale of the Severn.—Delightful View from Newnham Church-yard.—Mitchel Dean.—Wretched state of the Roads in the Forest of Dean.—Ross.—Fine Prospect from its Church-yard.—Navigation of the Wye from Ross to Monmouth.—Goodrich Castle, Symonds Gate, surprising Curve of the River, the new Weir, and the Approach to Monmouth.—Navigation of the Wye from Monmouth to Chepstowe.—Llandogoe, Descent to Tintern Abbey, extreme Beauty of the River beneath Persfield, and grand Approach to Chepstowe.—Town, Castle, Bridge of Chepstowe.—Romantic Scenery and fine Disposition of Ground at Persfield.—Great Taste of the late Mr. Morris, who formed that Place.*

THE proper approach to South Wales may be said to commence at those various points of the Cotteswold hills which, either cloathed with beech woods, or protruding their steep and downish summits, descend abruptly into the great vale of Gloucestershire.

After a long and dreary ride over this uninteresting tract, which, bare of wood, and thinly scattered with coarse villages, partakes enough of the quality of downs to give an idea of wildness without majesty, and enough of modern cultivation to offend the eye with perpetual interfections of stone walls, the contrast exhibited from these extremities bursts upon the sight with a force and beauty almost incredible to those who have not been long accustomed to such transitions. The great breadth and almost boundless extent of this plain, losing itself on one side in the Bristol channel, and on the other in the distant hills of Warwickshire, Worcestershire, and Shropshire; its abundant riches, thickly interspersed with towns, villages, and wooded hills; and above all, the bold meanders of the Severn swelling from a proud river into a majestic sea, form a grand assemblage of objects rarely united with so strong an effect. Neither is the opposite boundary unequal to the accumulated beauties displayed below, where the wild heathy eminences of the forest of Dean, the circular encampment of May-hill, and the indented summits of the Malvern ridge, form the proper frontier to a mountainous country, and prepare the eye for the scenery it is to encounter.

In the centre of this plain, Gloucester, one of the principal cities of England towards South Wales, exalts its towers and spires with considerable majesty, and appears the proud capital of this extended domain. This city, in the course of a few years, has swelled into a place of commercial importance, and lost that air of dulness and inactivity which often prevails in towns undistinguished by trade, and devoted to ecclesiastical institutions. Its situation, however, though it affords a fine object to the hills around, is far from pleasant; for, buried in the plain, it is too far distant from either termination to partake of much variety of country, and though its walls are washed by the Severn, that river loses at Gloucester much of its dignity by being divided into two moderate channels with a long connecting causeway. Its streets are regular and well-formed, neither are they undistinguished by handsome public buildings, which indicate the increasing opulence of the place, and the importance of the county. A very respectable hospital, and one of the most complete gaols in England, stand foremost among these; but the cathedral alone is sufficient to repay a traveller's curiosity in visiting Gloucester. Without, its lofty tower and four transparent pinnacles adorned with exquisite fret-work, make a conspicuous figure; within, the high roof and Gothic ornaments

ornaments of the choir, form a noble contrast with the simple grandeur of the ponderous Saxon pillars and arches which support the aisle.

Crossing the Severn from Gloucester, we pursued a delightful ride on its western bank, commanding views of the city and its surrounding vale, with the long range of the Cotteswold hills, finely distinguished, and perpetually varied from every turn of the road. The tufted eminences of the forest of Dean hung over us on the right, and sometimes in their transient openings presented to our view a succession of rural vallies sweetly decorated with villages and enclosures. As we advanced, the Severn, uniting its two branches, increased in magnitude, and began to sweep the vale in bold irregular curves, every reach of which, now more and more influenced by the tide, and studded with sails, added new beauties to the landscape. At the bottom of the principal swell we found the little picturesque town of Newnham, which participates in the wild appearance of the neighbouring forest, and may properly be called its port. A passage is here established across the river, and forms the most direct communication from Dean and Monmouthshire to the opposite clothing towns in the vallies of the Cotteswold hills; this gives the place an air of commercial bustle and spirit which does not militate with the rustic charms of the surrounding country. The churchyard of Newnham, covering an abrupt cliff, commands the two great reaches of the bold semicircle formed by the Severn, with the spire of Westbury on the left, and Berkeley castle on the right; soon after which the river swells into a great æstuary, and in sight forms the Bristol channel.

Here deserting its banks, we climbed the hills, and ascending through the romantic village of Little Dean, soon found ourselves on one of the summits of the forest, from whence we took a farewell view of the vale of Gloucestershire, with all its grand and beautiful objects, spread like a garden beneath us. The horizon now became more confined, and embosomed in the groves and lawns of the forest, we enjoyed its wild and tranquil scenery, till descending into a deep hollow, the picturesque spire of Mitchel Dean attracted our notice. This capital of its district, being little larger than a village, does not equal the more opulent display of Newnham; yet the tranquil beauty of its environs often leads a traveller to visit it, though it has long ceased to be the principal approach to Monmouthshire and South Wales, from the shameful neglect of the forest roads. Large sums, it is said, are annually allowed by government for their support; but, like some of the military ways in Scotland, this great thoroughfare is become almost impassable, and the public is obliged to make a circuit by Ross from Gloucester to Monmouth. A report prevailed some time since, that these roads were about to be repaired: but so little has been done for many years, that even expectation has almost subsided; if the ranger of the forest, or a prime minister, were once to be jolted from Dean to Coleford, and arrive safe at the end of his journey (a circumstance by no means certain), some hope might be entertained that this important concern would be properly attended to and this interesting tract of country rendered more accessible.

The country from Dean to Ross, partook of the same forest-like appearance with which we had been encompassed since we left Newnham, and that ancient and irregular town, with its lofty spire, presented itself to advantage, rising from a high and well-wooded eminence just within the borders of Herefordshire. The munificence of Mr. John Kyrle, the Man of Ross, has been celebrated by one of our best poets, and his memory is held in great veneration at the place, while the public causeways and his
other

other works remain as testimonies of his liberality. The church-yard and its contiguous field exhibit the much-admired view of the Wye, winding in a broad semicircle through a range of the greenest meadows, and passing under the bridge of Wilton beneath its ancient and ivy-mantled castle. A thickly-wooded country, interspersed with villages and cultivations, appears in front, and a few of the Welch mountains back the whole at unequal distances.

The navigation of the Wye from Ross to Monmouth and Chepstowe, offered a temptation that we could not resist, and having secured a good covered boat, well stored with provisions, we embarked for this expedition at the foot of Wilton bridge.

The day was bright, but not unmixed with clouds; and the lights and shades thrown upon the several objects we passed, added not a little to the romantic appearance of the scenery as we followed the bold and incessant windings of the river. Rich meadows and fine hanging woods encompassed us, till rocky hills seemed to advance towards the river; on one of which we descried the antique bastions of Goodrich castle proudly emerging from the thick grove in which it stood embowered. By a steep and rugged path we ascended to this fine remnant of antiquity, which appears to have been once a place of great strength; little of it now remains entire except two of the bastions, a Gothic gateway with a long dark passage, one arched window, and a light pillar supporting two Gothic arches which seems formerly to have belonged to the chapel.—Goodrich castle is supposed to have been erected soon after the conquest and was possessed by William Marshal, Earl of Pembroke, in the reign of King John. The view, from the front of this castle before the great ditch, is wonderfully striking, including on the one side the wooded and cultivated vale of Herefordshire, with the spire of Ross, and on the other a range of wild hills covered with heath and fern, which, undulating in a chain of irregular summits, form the boundary of the forest of Dean.

Descending again to the river by the small remains of Goodrich priory, we soon came in sight of the church of Walford, the picturesque spire of Ruerdean in the forest, and the two villages of Welch and English Bichnor: at Coldwell, where a clear spring often induces those who navigate the Wye for pleasure to take their cold collation, we dined pleasantly in our boat beneath a high hill crowned with wood, in front of a pile of rocks, which formed a magnificent contrast to the rich and tranquil scenes we had lately beheld. These rocks exhibit an awful and tremendous appearance, overhanging the river with great majesty; from some legendary tale which I did not sufficiently notice to remember, they have obtained the name of Symonds gate, and a very arduous pass is carried over them towards Newnham and Coleford, communicating with a ferry on the Wye. Here we left our boat for a while, and, ascending by a craggy tract to the summit, looked down with astonishment on the river forming a prodigious circle of seven miles round this grand promontory, standing on which we could scarcely measure 150 yards to either channel.—The distant prospect was extensive on every side, except towards the south, chiefly consisting of high hills fringed with wood, and rich vallies backed by a few of the mountains of South Wales. In our descent on the opposite side to the river, we passed through a great cleft of the rock, and rejoined our boat, which had in the mean time performed the round of seven miles, at the new Weir. The scenery here was enchantingly beautiful, and the country continued partly rocky, and partly enriched with hills clothed with wood, till, after several

veral bold curves, passing beneath the mansion and groves of Hadnock, we entered a broad and strait reach of the river, which terminated grandly in the arches of the long Gothic bridge of Monmouth.

Here we passed the night, and on the following morning reembarked in our boat for Chepstowe. The day was less favourable than the former, and the water at times so rough from strong gusts of wind, that we found it difficult to proceed; for the stream is naturally very rapid, and this part of the river abounds in dangerous shallows. Neither was the scenery in the first part of this navigation by any means equal to that from Ross to Monmouth, after we had passed the beautifully romantic spot and works of Redbrook, the river being for the most part sunk in a deep abyss between high impending hills, and a few poor villages diversifying the scene with a scanty shew of ragged population.—Soon after we had left Llandogoe and Brockware, we were obliged to wait for the tide, as the shoals beyond that spot are impassable except at high water, and our boatmen were fatigued with their exertions against the wind.—Unfurling our canvass awning, we enclosed ourselves in the boat, and excluded all objects during the time of dinner, to protect ourselves from the cold.

The scene changed when we withdrew the curtain; the day, though still rough, was brighter; the shoals had disappeared, and the river, having received the tide, filled its banks to their very edges, rolling between them with a broad impetuous stream. We also felt improved in spirits by our repast, and descending rapidly with the current, soon were greeted with the majestic display of Tintern abbey, encompassed with the truly monastic gloom of vast impending woods and high craggy rocks. A nobler object than this great ruin never burst upon the astonished sight of a traveller, and the characteristic beauty of its position is incomparable. The fabric itself is in extraordinary preservation, and displays the chaste and somewhat ornamented Gothic in the utmost perfection; the grand entrance, with the high window above it, are perfect, and the perspective of the great aisle through the splendid relics of the east window to the opposite hills, is uncommonly striking. Four superb arches and pillars, which formerly supported the high tower, remain uninjured; and these are remarkable for their singular lightness and elegance: the key-stones of the several arches also are distinguishable for the exquisite nicety of their carving, as are many of the images dispersed about the ruin.—Tintern abbey was founded by Walter de Clare, in the year 1131, for Cistercian monks, and dedicated to Saint Mary.

It was with regret that we left this beautiful and interesting object after a minute survey, frequently looking back as we descended with the river, and admiring the various points in which it presented itself. The rapidity of our course, however, soon brought us round a projecting headland, and the scenery around us, improving in grandeur and magnificence, arrested all our attention. The windings of the river became incessant, and its shores increased in majesty: on the Gloucestershire side, the rich and cultivated farm of Llancaut covered a large peninsula, connected with the adjoining hills by a narrow neck of rock, while the Monmouthshire bank displayed all the grandeur and beauty of Persfield, in a succession of woods, rocks, high cliffs, and plantations, surpassing all description.—In the midst of this enchanting scenery we glided rapidly over the surface of the river, varying our objects incessantly at every turn, till the whole terminated proudly in the high cliff, on which the embattled walls and towers of Chepstowe castle projected before its town and bridge.—Here our little voyage concluded, and the superior accommodations which we found at the Beaufort

arms at Chepstowe, were not unwelcome after the cold we had experienced on the water. — Chepstowe is irregularly built on the side of a steep hill, but the whitened fronts of its houses bear a cheerful appearance, and an air of opulence distinguishes it from the neighbouring towns. Its advantageous position for commerce, near the conflux of the Wye with the Severn, may account for this in great part; the extraordinary beauty of its situation, and its ornamented vicinage, must answer for the rest. The spot on which the castle is situated commands the river, which is there engulfed between a double row of cliffs, beautifully intermixed with wood. One of the most abrupt of these forms its foundation, and many of its caverns descend to the level of the water, the fabric itself being highly elevated. It covers a large extent of ground, and appears to have been built in different ages; the chapel and its adjacent buildings seem more ruinous and neglected than the rest, but these are by far the most modern, as well as the most magnificent parts of the castle, impending nobly over the river. — The bridge of Chepstowe is a singular structure, uniting the counties of Gloucester and Monmouth; it is of an extraordinary length, built chiefly of wood, with a massy stone pier in the centre. The tide rising occasionally to a prodigious height here, it is considerably elevated above the level of the river, and its surface is composed of boards loosely placed so as to admit the water freely between the interstices. This occasions some alarm to strangers, and horses unused to the pass have frequently taken fright from the shaking of the wood beneath them.

The celebrated gardens of Persfield present the principal objects to be visited from Chepstowe, and these contain many points of view scarcely to be equalled for beauty and variety. The park and grounds are extensive, covering a considerable eminence, and forming several distinct lawns between open groves; in the centre of one of which the new house, a stately mansion, is placed on a fine elevation of ground. It commands an extensive prospect over the Bristol channel to the distant hills of Somersetshire; while, directly opposite, the shipping in Kingroad appear before the mouth of the Avon, and on the left the finely variegated shore of Gloucestershire exhibits the parks and villas which decorate the environs of Bristol from Kingweston to Thornbury. — In the nearer view, the Wye, descending through its rocky channel, pours its rapid stream into the Severn, and the castle, with the bridge of Chepstowe, adorn its exit from the hills with considerable majesty. — This fine display of distant objects is charmingly contrasted by the views commanded from the walks conducted above the Wye, where stupendous rocks, clothed profusely with wood, impend over the winding channel of that noble river, and disclose all the romantic varieties of a mountainous landscape. — Numberless are the points of view to be admired in their meandering course, from the conflux of the two rivers beyond Chepstowe, to the position called the Lover's-leap, where a frightful precipice, darkened below with wood, commands some of the upper curves of the Wye, and the superior heights of the Wynd cliff crown the whole with great dignity.

These walks are very extensive, and were formed upon the rocks with great art and taste by the late Mr. Morris, the original designer of this noble place; the remembrance of whose virtues and liberality is still impressed on this neighbourhood, united with pity for the misfortunes which attended his close of life.

CHAP. II.—*Old and new Passages over the Severn.—Caldecot Castle.—Tessellated Pavement at Caerwent.—Extensive Prospect from Pencam-awr.—Vale of the Uske, and peculiar Character of its River.—Uske and its Castle.—Ragland Castle.—Immense View from the Devaudon.—Striking Descent to Monmouth.—Wonaflowe.—Clythoe.—The Plain of Monmouthshire.—Charming Position of Abergavenny.—Llantony Abbey.—Entrance of South Wales.—Delightful Prospects from Dany park.—Crickhowell.—Llangattock.—Tretower.—The Bwlch and its Views.—Buckland.—Peterstone.—Brecknock; its fine Position, and pleasing State of Society.—Beautiful Disposition of Ground at Penpont; its Taste, judicious Arrangements, and Hospitality.*

THE two great passages over the Severn to Bristol, are in the vicinage of Chepstowe, from whose bridge a precipitous ascent, on the Gloucestershire bank of the Wye, conducted us over the cliff, from whence we descended into a level peninsula, at the extremity of which we found the old passage house at Beachley. The distance from thence to Aust is little more than two miles; but the landing on either side is supposed to be less convenient than at the new passage, where the Severn is near three miles in breadth.—The inns at both are equally commodious, and the prospects from each to the opposite shore are nearly similar, except that the rocky coast of Aust presents a grand object to the old passage, which is more than compensated by the breadth of water prevailing at the new passage. We returned through Chepstowe, and ascended another very steep hill to approach the latter, which is five miles distant from that town in the opposite direction, passing by the well wooded park of St. Pierre, and deviating a little towards the coast from the great Welch road.

Rejoining this road, we soon came in sight of Caldecot castle, a spacious quadrangular building, with a round tower at each angle, and a Gothic gateway, the roof of which is curiously formed upon light arches, terminating in several grotesque heads; this castle originally belonged to the lord high constables of England.

A little further we found the inconsiderable remains of Caerwent, once a flourishing Roman station, but now containing few memorials of the ancient consequence which was attached to the *Venta Silurum* of the Romans. The principal of these is a curious tessellated pavement, which was about thirty years ago accidentally discovered, and is now preserved under a shed constructed for the purpose. It is in length seven yards, and six in width, being quadrangular in its shape, and perfectly uniform, except at the upper end, where I observed an oblong compartment not at all coloured. Within a border of variegated stones, it contains three rows of three circular and spiral figures, not unlike those in many of our Turkey carpets, but formed of tessellæ of various colours, nicely put together.

In the village of Caerwent we left the Newport road, and passing by Llanvair, followed a long and laborious ascent, through a rude kind of forest, to the high eminence of Pencamawr. This is a part of that long mountainous ridge which crosses irregularly, with small intervals, through Monmouthshire; and from whence nearly the whole of that beautiful country is visible, forming a perpetual succession of wooded vallies, like the cells of a honey-comb, between high impending hills. The Uske flows in tranquil beauty through the principal vale below, but the envious heights of the Devaudon exclude the Wye from sight, and confine that noble river within their deep romantic hollows. The distant prospect from hence is still more striking, commanding

ing on one side the Bristol channel with its opposite coast, till they are lost in the sea; and on the other, the long ridge of the Pontipool hills, terminating in the mountain called the Bloreng, the Schyrryd Vawr, and the Sugar-loaf, whose mishapen heads projecting before the broad expanse of the Black mountain in Brecknockshire, form the barrier to South Wales.

The descent from Penca-mawr is extremely rapid into the vale of Uske, which seemed to increase in magnitude and beauty as we approached its level. Irregular projections of wood pressed every where forward upon a range of sweet meadows, and verdant patches of ground filled their recesses, in one of which the handsome seat of Pertholy appeared suspended. The river Uske, though not equal to the Wye, has its peculiar beauties; neither its size, nor the distance of its conflux with the Severn from its source, can admit of the same varieties of attendant scenery; but the rapidity of its transit from a mountain torrent to a river encompassed with rich pastures, even before it emerges from its native wilds, is remarkable. In the vale of Uske, which is not far from the Severn, it preserves its original character, and softens down the asperities of a rude surrounding outline, by a gentleness which generally spares the adjoining pastures, while its strong current gives ample testimony of the legitimacy of its origin in a mountainous district.

Close to the river which has given it a name, we found the little town of Uske, which was formerly called Caerwyske, and is supposed by some to have been the Burrium of Antoninus; it contains at present several neat streets, a plain bridge, and the considerable remains of a castle.

Deserting the valley here, we surmounted a high ascent, and soon reached the village of Ragland, now only remarkable for the ruin of its once famous castle. This splendid seat of the Beaufort family, where the marquis of Worcester made his gallant defence in the civil wars, is now fallen into decay; yet its proud remains, with the traces of Gothic elegance yet to be perceived in the hall, the windows, and several apartments, still exist as melancholy proofs of its downfall from a superior state of grandeur. Here was held what might be called the court of the modern princes of this country, and at no far distant period the youths of family in South Wales acquired the polish of improvement within these walls, where a degree of regal splendor was supported with all the imposing magnificence of feudal power. What could tempt its noble owners to desert this grand and venerable establishment in the midst of their extensive possessions, it is difficult to conjecture; to a traveller, these dismantled walls and towers, so lately the seat of revelling and opulence, inspire the melancholy idea of a premature desertion, and convey a strong proof of the transitory state of human grandeur, ever depending on caprice, accident, and the uncertain changes of fortune.

We took the Chepstowe road from Ragland castle, for the purpose of ascending the great ridge of the Devaudon, where the prospect was not unlike that from Penca-mawr, except that the Severn, being more distant, was less conspicuous; the incessant cluster of the Monmouthshire vallies below, seemed from this great height to form a vast plain thickly overspread with woods and population, and extended to the bases of the Brecknockshire mountains, which here appeared in all their grandeur. Towards Chepstowe, the view was obstructed by the lofty eminence of the Wynde cliff above Persfield, and a few wild hills adjoining to the forest of Dean, confined the passage of the Wye, which pervaded the deep valley beneath us in invisible obscurity.—On the summit of this ridge we joined the road from Chepstowe to Monmouth, and after a long

long and laborious ride, came at once in view of the rich valley, in which that town appeared to great advantage, with its high spire, and its grand old bridge over the Wye.—Our descent was rapid, and yet near three miles in length; but the objects before us were so beautifully varied, such was the profusion of wood on the hills, and such the riches of cultivation and pasture in the vallies, that we should have regretted our attaining the level, had we not entered so handsome a town as Monmouth. A bridge over the little river Monow, terminating in a curious old gateway, led us into a considerable street, which grew narrower as we approached the centre of the town, and then opened into a large area, forming the market-place. Monmouth is well inhabited, and the great beauty of its situation, as well as of the adjoining country, has tempted many respectable families to prefer it for their residence. It has already undergone some improvement, and is capable of much more, by widening the avenues to the market-place and bridge, and above all, by mending the roads in almost every direction, most of which are at present very bad in the neighbourhood of Monmouth. Its public buildings do credit to the spirit of the place and the county, consisting of a fine church, a complete new gaol in the form of a fortress, and a handsome county hall, ornamented with a statue of Henry V. forming one side of the market-place. Monmouth castle was built before the conquest, and was taken by Henry III. who gave it to his son Edmund, earl of Lancaster; its remains are insignificant; but a large mansion has been built within its walls, which, being occupied by the family of Tudor, has long been the first ladies' boarding-school in this part of the country.

Repassing the bridge over the Monow, on the first eminence in the Abergavenny road, we reached the gate leading to the venerable mansion of Wonaſtowe, where that hearty welcome, which we have since so often experienced from its worthy inhabitants, then first awaited us. This old seat of the Milborne family, not being of late inhabited by its owners, has been long consigned as a residence to their very respectable agent, Mr. Williams, who keeps it in excellent condition, and does ample justice to his position. Here he lives with his amiable family in a state of pristine rural hospitality, embowered in the fine groves of this ancient demesne, which, stretching to the summit of a high hill, cover a long projecting ridge, and command all the views of this highly favoured country in great perfection.

A perpetual succession of steep and rugged hills, led us by the deserted seat of Dinastowe, through a well enclosed country abounding in orchards, till we descended into the great vale at Clythoe, between the new built house of Mr. Jones, and his modern castle. This structure, which, as well as a gateway he has lately formed, is a good imitation of the Gothic, from the summit of an adjoining hill, commands an uninterrupted view across the vale, where the opposite mountains display the boldness of their uncouth shapes in great perfection; the broad, flat, and protruding angles of the Black mountain contrasting finely the taper cone of the Sugar-loaf, while the furrowed rents of the Skyrrydd-vawr oppose the abrupt, but smooth termination of the Blorengge.

In our advance through this plain, abounding in villages and population, we passed by several handsome seats; and the road, improving into an excellent turnpike, led us partly on the banks of the Uske, and partly on little eminences above it, with perpetual variety of prospects, till a quick descent from a large old place of Mr. Hanbury Williams at Colebroke, brought us in sight of Abergavenny.

A more beautiful position than this town occupies can hardly be imagined in nature, bold projecting hills forming on every side a natural basin of no small extent, and the
little

little river Gavenny adding its waters to the Uske, in the midst of a most verdant range of meadows. Many houses of a superior order are dispersed in and about this place, but the town itself disappointed me, being, when first I saw it, irregularly built, ill paved, and the passage through the principal street appearing shamefully obstructed by a heavy old market-house. Modern improvements have removed the two last inconveniences, but much more is required to be done to make the internal accommodation of Abergavenny equal to the beauty of its exterior.—Its public buildings consist chiefly of a long Gothic bridge, the imperfect fragments of a castle, and a venerable church adjoining to the priory, a respectable seat of the ancient Gunter family, which came by marriage to that of Milborne, and, together with Wonaſtowe, was transferred by its amiable, but, alas! short-lived heiress, to that of Swinnerton in Staffordshire.—The resident society of this town is numerous, and the obliging attentions of some few friends who are fixed there have often made our short stay at that place pleasant: it has also been occasionally used as a kind of public place during the summer months, from its easy access to the goats whey, on the neighbouring mountains; but this influx of company seems of late to have subsided.

We made an excursion to Abergavenny to see the ruins of Llantony abbey, taking the Hereford road for some miles, and passing near Llanihangel, an old deserted seat of the Oxford family. Turning to the left we pursued a narrow lane through a very wild district, and found the object of our search in one of the deepest recesses of the Black-mountain. This abbey is more remarkable for the savage wildness of its position, than for its architecture, which is far plainer and less ornamented than that of Tintern; its west front is in tolerable preservation, and a Gothic gateway, with a large window above it, is elegantly supported by light clusters of pillars, like those in Salisbury cathedral. The principal aisle also is perfect, and all its pillars, with their arches, remain entire, which are neat and strong, but without any ornament except some light pilasters in triplets above them. The tower rose in the centre of the church, and two of its sides are still remaining, with three rows of windows, partly Saxon and Gothic, in each, above a magnificent arch covering the whole width of the aisle. The choir, which is approached from thence, is rather more ornamented than the rest of the building, and the window over the altar appears to have been formed in the most perfect style of the Gothic, but nothing more than its external arch remains entire. Llantony abbey was founded on the site of a chapel supposed to be the residence of St. David, the tutelar saint of Wales; it was rebuilt, and the monastery formed for Augustine monks by Sir William de Lacy in the year 1108. Little of the fabric, except the church, remains in any kind of preservation, and that little, falling apace to decay, will hardly exist much longer in its present state. From hence a very arduous track over the Black-mountain leads to the Hay and Radnorshire, which I have since explored with pleasure; but at this time we pursued it no further, returning by the route we came to Abergavenny.

Entering the gap through which the Uske descends into the plain of Monmouthshire, the mountains closed upon us on each side as we approached the confines of South Wales, and reached the little town of Crickhowel in the county of Brecknock. Here I first viewed the small, but charming territory, of which I afterwards became the proprietor; and I must risk even the imputation of partiality, to bestow a well-merited degree of praise on the transcendent beauties of Dany park and its vicinage. The house, built by its last most worthy owner, stands in a spacious lawn beneath a thick range of spreading woods, which descending from a great height, form at last an

open grove covering an abrupt knoll immediately over it. Above these, a fine mixture of pastures and cultivation stretches upward to the very feet of the mountains, which rises here in all their native sublimity, and are crowned with a perpendicular rock called "*Desguilfa*," or the prospect, from its almost unlimited command of view. Such is the position of this place to the south; towards the north it looks across a charming variety of enamelled meadows divided by the *Ufke*, to some fertile and ornamented hills, behind which the valley of *Llanbeder* descends with its train of woods, and the clustered cottages of *Llangenny* from the wildest districts of the country between the *Black-mountain* and the *Sugar-loaf*, whose shapes and summits appear grandly contrasted. Towards the west, the *Ufke*, emerging from the mountains which bound the vale of *Brecknock*, passes round a high pyramidal hill, and dividing the village of *Llangattock* from the town and castle of *Crickhowel*, flows rapidly through the ivied arches of their bridge: while on the east, it glides more gently between the verdant meads of *Dany park* and *Courty-gollen* towards *Abergavenny*, which appears at the distance of six miles at the bottom of the vale, beneath the groves of *Colebrooke*, and the little pointed apex of the *Schyrrydd Vach*.

Crickhowel has little to recommend it except the beautiful eminence on which it is placed, and the small, but picturesque, remains of its castle; the principal street being both steep and rough, and the long bridge to which it descends, dangerously narrow. Its opposite village of *Llangattock*, bears a more smiling aspect, being decorated with several handsome seats, and inhabited by many respectable families. Among these, the new-built house of *Admiral Gell* stands distinguished for the beauty of its position, the singularity of its structure, and the eccentric benevolence of its worthy owner, who, retired with well-earned fame from the active duties of his profession, here gladdens the heart of the villager by his liberality, and is justly esteemed by the whole country.

Having paid our tribute of applause to this enchanting district, we were still attended with the same surrounding scenery till we reached the village and picturesque ruin of *Tretower*, and passing round the pyramidal hill at the head of the vale, began to ascend the mountain called the *Bwlch*, which separates the two great vales of the *Ufke*. The road, being formed on a terrace, gave us a long farewell view of the vale through which we had passed, with a narrower valley descending into it from the foot of the *Black-mountain*, in which the village and high church of *Cwm-du* made a conspicuous figure. At length we reached the *Bwlch*, which word properly signifies a rent in a mountain; many such passes are found in the interior of *Wales* bearing the same appellation, which in some instances, as in the present, gives a name to the mountain itself.

As soon as we emerged from the hollow of the pass, every thing before us bore a different appearance; a dreary valley lay extended on the right beneath the extremity of the *Black-mountain*, closed by the hill of *Talgarth*, and floated by the naked pool of *Llangors*; while in front the vale of *Brecknock* expanded itself, disclosing beauties of a wilder nature than those we had lately admired in the animated scenes about *Abergavenny* and *Crickhowel*. The *Ufke* still flowed pleasantly through a chain of meadows, but the villages were less frequent, and the woods less abundant; yet the outline of the country was grandly imposing, and the semicircle of mountains, from the *Alt* to the pointed summits of the *Van* of *Brecknock*, inexpressibly striking. As we descended, nature assumed a more smiling aspect; the large seat of *Buckland*, with its extensive plantations, decorated the western side of the *Bwlch*, and the charming territory of

of Peterstone, surrounding its handsome mansion, covered a beautiful eminence above the manifold windings of the Uske, on whose banks we followed an admirable road to Brecknock, the capital of its county.

Greatly superior to Abergavenny in its buildings and decoration, Brecknock is not unlike it in some points of its situation, being placed in a plain which may be called a miniature of the former, at the head of two fine vales, and near the conflux of two rivers. From the north, the rapid Honddy, descending in a torrent from the hills, forms a romantic valley decorated with the hanging groves of the priory, and meets the Uske just before it passes under the stately arches of the bridge of Brecknock. Towards the south, the hill of Canthriff, clothed from its summit to its base with wood, opposes a barrier finely impending over the river, and fronting the bold and bare eminence of the Craig. Thus are the two vales formed, each of which, divided by the Uske, displays its characteristic beauties, while the Van, the mighty monarch of the Breconian mountains, exalts its two majestic summits, and stretches out its furrowed sides with ineffable dignity.

Brecknock was formerly a Roman station, originally called Aber-honddy; its priory was founded for Benedictines in the reign of Henry I. and its castle was built in the reign of William Rufus by Barnard de Newmarsh; in 1233 it was besieged by Llewellyn prince of Wales, but not taken.—The present town consists principally of three handsome streets; in the most spacious of which stand the county-hall and market-place. Its compact form and its eminence above the Uske, give it an advantage over most of the towns in Wales when viewed from without; while its superior neatness within is not less striking. It is in general well-built, and some of its modern houses may even be called magnificent, but a little clearing of old irregular buildings about the centre of the town is still wanting to render it perfect, and the pavement is capable of further improvement. Its bridge and its two old churches add much to its appearance, and few towns can boast of two such public walks as those on the Uske, and in the groves of the priory. This place and its neighbourhood are well inhabited by many distinguished families, and society here assumes its most captivating form to those strangers who are allowed to partake of its influence.—I must here again incur the blame of egotism, or submit to that of ingratitude, if I omit to notice the universal civility and attention I met with when it was my fate to visit this place in a public character, or the peculiar kindness and hospitality I both then and often since experienced from the amiable families of Penpont, Peterstone, and Clyro: with the two first of whom I became connected by the event which made me an adopted Welchman; and with the latter, by a friendship of many years standing.

Penpont lies at the distance of five miles from Brecknock, in the upper vale of the Uske, and its approach is distinguished by that singular access of beauty which can only adorn those mountainous tracts into which the rivers first descend from their sources. After passing the village of Llanfawddyd, we pursued for some time a new-formed road, beautifully winding on a precipice above the river, and buried in the recesses of a thick wood, till we emerged into a country differently featured at least, if not superior to any we had yet visited. The Uske, now participating in the nature of a mountain torrent, rushed with rapidity over several ledges of rock, and divided a valley narrower than that of Brecknock, while the opposite hill, which pressing upon the river seemed to turn it from its course, appeared finely clumped and ornamented with the groves of the park of Penpont. Beneath their spreading woods and lawns the respectable mansion of the place, spacious and irregular, covered a gentle elevation above the river, and fronting the vale appeared to command all its beauties as far as

the mountains beyond Brecknock, interspersed with various others within its own creation. Behind, the woods and house of Abercamlais seemed almost to fill the vale, which growing wilder and more contracted towards the west, extended in sight to the mountains of Trecastle, in which the Uske finds its source.

Penpont has the happy effect of uniting the somewhat formal magnificence of the ancient stile of gardening with the easy disposition of modern improvement, which was most judiciously introduced by its late worthy possessor, who removing all obstructions towards the vale, confined the walls and clipped hedges within a narrower compass, and allowing one great avenue to intersect the park, clumped the rest, and formed intermediate lawns with great taste and elegance. The ornamented tract of ground surrounding a little chapel with its adjoining cemetery, is not the least observable object at Penpont, and every stranger must be struck with the chaste propriety and decorous simplicity with which this sacred inclosure is adorned.—The views throughout all this charming territory are wonderfully striking, nor are those from the house less beautiful, and the whole is kept in that perfect order which indicates a wise and zealous administration. The death of the late Mr. Williams in 1794, deprived his country of a most useful member of society, and his family of an invaluable supporter; his excellent widow now resides at the place during the minority of her son, doing ample justice to her difficult situation, and exercising all the long-established hospitality of Penpont. Another branch of this respectable family inhabits the neighbouring seat of Abercamlais, another is fixed at Brecknock; all whose numerous descendants keep up that happy intercourse of connexion and friendship which is but too much neglected in what are, perhaps, miscalled the more polished circles of the metropolis.

CHAP. III.—*Pass of the Hills between Brecknockshire and Glamorganshire.—Merthyr Tydvil, and its great Iron Works.—Extraordinary Descent into the romantic Vale of Taaffe.—Magnificent Remains of Caerphilli Castle: its leaning Tower.—Return through the Hills to the Plain of Monmouthshire.—Pont-y-pool.—Caerleon.—Christchurch.—Newport.—Tredegar.—Ruperrah.—Keven-Mably.—Caerdiff and its Castle.—Castle-Coch in the lower Part of the Vale of Taaffe.—Llandaffe, and its Cathedral.—Singular Position of Llantrissant.—Cowbridge.—St. Donat's Castle.—Grand Display of the Bay of Swansea from Newton Down.—Pyle, Newton, and Margam.—Briton Ferry.—The Gnoll.—Neath.—Works of Morris-town.—Swansea.—Oystermouth Castle.—Ornamented Seat of Mr. Talbot at Penrice in Gower.*

HAVING passed some days in the agreeable society of Penpont and its neighbourhood, our time growing short made it necessary for us to resume the course of our intended travel.—Returning almost to the entrance of Brecknock, we took our direction towards the south on a new turnpike road, which led us through a dreary valley by the side of a rivulet at the foot of the Van; a steep ascent at length carried us to the summit of a chain of wild hills, from whence we descended gradually to the numerous forges of Merthyr Tydvil. This curious place, from an inconsiderable town in the midst of an obscure district, has swelled of late into great commercial importance, from the iron works established there by two great proprietors, who have employed a large capital in them with spirit and success.—We had now entered Glamorganshire, and passed the source of the Taaffe in the hills which divide that county from Brecknockshire; by a course of terraces on which the road is curiously conducted, we pursued the rapid descent of that river into a deep valley, while a canal

canal keeping pace with it on the opposite side by a wonderfully quick succession of locks, generally followed a course parallel to that of the Taaffe.

Translated thus, as it were, from the clouds into a deep abyss, we were imperceptibly encompassed with rocks, cataracts, and all the assemblage of objects which decorate a romantic valley, while we wound pleasantly almost on the margin of the torrent between abrupt hills finely clothed with wood, till we had reached that stupendous arch which crosses it, bearing the name of the Pont-y-prydd, or new bridge.—This extraordinary structure is a perfect segment of a circle, the chord of which is 140 feet, and was erected by one William Edwards, a mason of Glamorganshire, who had failed in his two first attempts from the width and rapidity of the river. This arch, however, seems calculated to exist for many ages, and, though disgraced by a wretched parapet of rough stones subsequently placed upon it, is an exquisite piece of masonry; its ascent also on each side is rendered dangerous by its steepness, and the slippery pavement with which it has been covered, each of which disadvantages might have been avoided. As an external object, it can hardly be sufficiently admired; crossing the vale abruptly, and appearing to connect the opposing hills with its light and fairy curve, so as almost to produce the effect of magic.

Proceeding down the vale, and winding on a beautiful terrace above the banks of the rapid Taaffe, we enjoyed a succession of romantic scenes till we reached the spot where a steep and narrow track deviated from the Cardiffe road on the left, towards Caerphilli castle. Passing over a rude and unequal district, we soon found the grand object of our search in a small but wild plain, surrounded by a chain of high rocky hills.—This castle was formerly the largest in Britain, and its magnificent remains, though much contracted within their original compass, convey a full idea of its ancient grandeur. Crossing two moats over the ruins of their draw-bridges, we approached the citadel, which presented to our view the stupendous and almost perfect structure of a separate castle, with a high Gothic arch in the centre, supported by two huge circular bastions. Through this grand entrance we reached the inner court, surrounded by a range of noble apartments, many of which are still sufficiently entire to convey a full idea of their original perfection. The hall, in particular, exhibits a fine specimen of Gothic grandeur, and the ornamented outline of its four windows and chimney-piece are hardly to be matched, together with several light pillars in triplets, that go round the room.—The mint of the castle is beneath, arched all round in a curious manner, with the remains of a furnace for melting money in one corner; a gallery also, ninety feet in length, is still entire, except where the staircases leading to it have been destroyed. In the exterior court is to be found the extraordinary curiosity of a leaning tower, which has existed so far above a century, near eleven feet out of the perpendicular, being wonderfully supported by the strength of its cement. Returning through the hall, the interior view of the great gateway between its two mighty bastions, appeared the most striking, as well as perfect, part of this enormous castle, which the tradition of the country reports to have included two miles within its outer moat, crossed by thirteen draw-bridges, and which still more resembles the ruins of a city than of a single edifice. It was built by Edward I. and afterwards belonging to the Spencers in the reign of his successor, Hugh Spencer was besieged in it, but not taken; in various changes and successions it has descended to the families of Pembroke, Windsor, and Bute, the present lord of Cardiffe.

A wretched road carried us from Caerphilli over a wild and uninteresting tract of mountains towards the East, till we reached their termination in the wide plain of Monmouthshire, and found the footy town of Pont-y-pool suspended in one of their clefts.

clefts. This place disappointed me somewhat in the idea I had formed of its improvement and extent, from its long established manufactures; but the spot in which it is placed is extremely beautiful, and the adjoining seat of the Hanbury family is a striking feature. A long descent carried us from thence to the once famous city of Caerleon, supposed to have been the *Isca Silurum* of the Romans, on the banks of the *Uſke*; but few were the traces we could distinguish of its ancient magnificence, while its modern consequence is but little improved by participating in the manufactures of *Pont-y-pool*. We crossed the *Uſke* here, now become a tide river, by a timber bridge similar to that of *Chepstowe*, and ascended a steep hill to the village of *Christchurch*; from whence we commanded an extensive view over almost the whole of *Monmouthshire*, with a fine seat of *Sir Robert Salusbury* in the level bounded by the *Bristol* channel. Here we rejoined the great road from *Chepstowe*, and the passages towards *Wales*; soon after which an abrupt descent brought us again to the banks of the winding *Uſke*, near its conflux with the *Severn*; where over another long and marvellously narrow timber bridge, now about to be rebuilt, we approached the old town of *Newport*, descending from a steep hill, and covered towards the river by an almost perfect front of its ancient castle. This town can boast of little but the view from its church-yard, which is placed on the summit of the hill, and commands a fine part of the vale, with the high undulating range towards *Pont-y-pool* on one side, while the *Bristol* channel expands itself widely on the other between the shores of *Somersetshire* and *Monmouthshire*, exhibiting the two islands of the steep and flat *Holmes* in the middle of its course.

The extensive park of *Tredegar*, finely overspread with ancient timber, covers several bold summits near this eminence, and overlooks the level in which its stately mansion is situated, beneath some fine lawns descending from the groves which clothe the heights.—This very respectable place is the original seat of the *Morgan* family, one of the most considerable in *South Wales* from the remotest antiquity, and has always been inhabited by its descendants, whose estates cover a vast tract in the three counties of *Monmouth*, *Glamorgan*, and *Brecknock*. The new road from *Newport* into *Wales* lies between the house and the park; and as we approached the limits of *Monmouthshire*, we came within sight of the elevated mansion of *Ruperrah*, finely situated on a wooded hill beneath the mountains which bound the vale of *Caerphilli*. This place also belongs to the *Morgan* family, and appears more modern than *Tredegar* in its decoration, while its commanding position gives it an air of consequence above all the other seats in this country, and the prospect it enjoys towards the coast is very striking. Keven-mably, an old house and park of the *Kemys* family, lies in the vale beneath it, and though placed on a considerable eminence, appears almost buried beneath the groves and superior heights of *Ruperrah*. Descending into the level at *Romney* bridge, we re-entered *Glamorganshire*, and soon approached its little capital of *Cardiffe*.

This place is situated on the flat which surrounds the *Taaffe* after its exit from the mountains, and within two miles of its entrance into the *Bristol* channel, being nearly opposite to the steep and flat *Holmes*, on the last of which is fixed a conspicuous lighthouse. *Cardiffe* is one of the neatest towns in *South Wales*, its streets being wide, well built, and admirably paved; its church is a fine Gothic edifice, and its bridge a handsome structure, much improved by the late additions. Its castle was built by *Robert Fitz-Hamon*, a Norman, in 1110, and *Robert* duke of *Normandy* was confined in it by his younger brother *Henry I.* This pile has been repaired and made habitable by its present lord, the marquis of *Bute*; but the additions do not seem well designed,

or to accord perfectly with its original architecture. A high walk is carried on the walls which surround the whole enclosure, and the view from the ancient tower which formed the keep is very extensive.

Proceeding on the bank of the Taaffe towards the north, and crossing the plain of Cardiffe, the mountains soon closed in on each side of the river, forming a majestic portal of rock and wood, one cliff of which appeared distinguished by the ruin of Castle-coch, or the red castle, placed there originally to defend the pass. Beyond this point, the valley appeared in all its romantic variety, and the road, winding on the cliffs as the river seemed to direct it, disclosed new beauties at every turn, till we reached the spot where we had before deviated to visit Caerphilli castle.—Having thus explored the whole of this charming valley from the very source of the Taaffe, we returned to the entrance of the plain in which Cardiffe is situated, and crossing that rapid river by a venerable bridge overhung with ivy, soon approached the ancient city of Llandaffe, now little more considerable than a village.

The ruins of an old cathedral with its lofty towers, amidst those of several other religious buildings, finely interspersed and overhung with wood, give that air of solemnity to Llandaffe which frequently attends those spots occupied by decayed ecclesiastical institutions. The modern church is peculiarly situated, being formed, for the most part, within the walls of the ancient cathedral, with which (though much smaller) it is so incorporated in many places, that it would be difficult to distinguish the one from the other, had the architecture been similar. The case, however, is far otherwise; for the modern church is little better than a compound of absurdities, where the pure Gothic of the ancient building is ridiculously contrasted with Venetian windows, Ionic pillars, and every impropriety of the Grecian style. Around this ill-arranged farrago of the ancient and modern, the yet uninjured towers and arches of the old cathedral elevate themselves with gigantic grandeur, and overlook this petty system of innovation with that silent air of deserted dignity which seems to convey a just reproach on the degeneracy of the present age in its religious buildings. In the midst of these defects, which apply only to its architect, the neatness with which this church is kept, deserves no small portion of commendation, as well as the care with which several remnants of antiquity are preserved. Few of the members of its society are resident, but these appear to be assiduous in their duty, and their families contribute much, together with the beauty of its situation, to render Llandaffe a pleasant residence.

Pursuing a good road through a well cultivated country, we soon came in sight of the singular position of Llantrissant, whose whitened buildings appear clustered like a swarm of bees, in the sides and on the summit of a cleft in one of the high hills which bound the vale of Glamorgan. The streets, of course, are steep and narrow, but the prospects which this obscure place commands are singularly striking, and more than repay the traveller for surmounting its inconveniences. A good road is lately carried from hence to the Pont-y-prydd in the vale of Taaffe, which is but a few miles distant from Llantrissant, and in its long descent displays that extraordinary structure, and the beauties of its vale, in the most advantageous points of view.

Having made an excursion to visit the spot which so commands these charming objects, we returned to Llantrissant, and descending into the rich vale of Glamorgan, soon arrived at Cowbridge, a town on the high road, chiefly consisting of one street on a gentle declivity, with a small rivulet flowing beneath it. An intricate track brought us from thence through a pleasant country towards the coast, and we found St. Donat's

nat's castle on the rocks impending over the shore. This large irregular pile, together with its park and gardens, bears many marks of ancient magnificence, and is still in some degree inhabited, but most of the state apartments are in a very decayed condition. The view from its principal tower is really noble, looking straight across the channel, which is there near twenty miles broad, to the bold hills of Somersetshire above Minehead, and tracing that great æstuary from King-road and the influx of the Avon, till its opposite shores recede too far from the eye to distinguish it from an open sea.

We rejoined the great road at the village of Wenye, and leaving the little town of Bridgend on the right, reached the summit of Newton Down by a long and laborious ascent. Here a wonderful burst of prospect greeted us, extending over the great bay of Swansea, in the sweep of a fine semicircle, almost to the extreme point of the peninsula of Gower, which crossed in with the English coast at a great distance. Directly opposite to our station, in the centre of the bay, the large town of Swansea, spread over several low hills and their hollows, almost imitated the display of Naples; while on the left, the high point of the Mumbles Head, impending over the sea, and crowned with a light-house, represented the Cambrian miniature of Vesuvius. To complete the resemblance, another Solfaterra exhibited itself, where the numerous forges of Morris-town tinged the country with the sulphureous atmosphere of their copper-works, and covered the adjacent hills with their abundant population, while the collieries of Neath poured forth their opposite volumes of smoke, where its river descended to the sea amidst the groves of Briton ferry, before which the mighty hill of Margam, clothed with oaks to its very summit, projected with astonishing grandeur.

Delighted with this view, which the declining sun of a fine summer evening shewed to great advantage, we descended slowly to the village of Pyle, where Mr. Talbot has built a house of entertainment, which rather resembles a palace than an inn. This pleasant spot has every advantage of situation as well as accommodation, and travellers are often induced to fix here for several days, making excursions to visit the several objects in the vicinage of Pyle.—The bathing houses at Newton on the coast, are not above three miles distant; but these, as well as those of Barry-island near St. Donat's, though crowded with company, have few attractions, being extremely difficult of access, and almost buried beneath huge hillocks of sand.

Margam, the grand but deserted seat of the Talbot family, presents a nobler object, with its high wooded hill, and its princely orangery. This magnificent building is esteemed the finest of its kind in Europe, and was constructed a few years ago to contain a numerous collection of almost gigantic orange and lemon trees, which long before being wrecked on the coast, became the property of this family. The house of Margam has lately been pulled down, but the remains of an ancient chapter-house are well worthy of the attention of the curious, being supported by one central pillar, which, spreading in several light branches at the top, forms perfect arches all around with the points of the Gothic windows, which rise to meet it. This chapter-house is the most entire remnant of the ancient monastery of Margam, of which many other vestiges are to be traced in the park, and among the adjacent buildings.

We now soon reached the copper-works of Aberavon, and descended to the charming seat of lord Vernon at Briton ferry, where the Neath river, issuing from the bold hills which enclose its vale, passes between several majestic groves, and precipitates itself into the sea. This place is laid out with great taste and elegance, and the prospects to

be enjoyed from its numerous walks and drives, are both various and striking; but neither the structure of the house, nor its situation, correspond perfectly with the beauty of the grounds.

Deserting the coast here for a while, and pursuing the valley to Neath, we soon gained a sight of the high ground on the right, occupied by the park and elevated mansion of the Gnoll, the splendid seat of the Mackworth family, now transferred by marriage to that of Hanbury. Great expence has here been bestowed with considerable effect, and the plantations of this extensive place cover a large tract of country; its walks and cascades also are much to be admired, and the commanding aspect of the house cannot be passed unnoticed. In the midst of these advantages, the Gnoll loses much of its beauty by the smoke of the various collieries which encompass it, and its vicinage to the dirty town of Neath. Here we crossed the river, which, descending rapidly along the course of a romantic valley, finds its source in the distant mountains, dividing the two counties, through which an arduous road is carried to Brecknock. — We pursued it no further, but, after visiting the imperfect remains of Neath abbey, crossed a hill to reach those numerous collieries and copper-works which, occupying an immense tract of country towards the north of Swansea, blast the soil all around with their sulphureous influence, destroying the appearance of verdure, and preventing cultivation. These works, formed by several spirited proprietors, are chiefly conducted by Mr. Morris, whose handsome seat of Clafemont overlooks the whole territory; all the hills around are covered with their buildings, and the principal assemblage of houses, formed into regular streets, with a church and wharfs, bears the title of Morris-town. — Through this curious place, and amidst all that train of villas and abundant population which indicate the prosperity arising from successful enterprise, we approached the walls of Swansea, now swelled into a port of great importance from its neighbouring manufactures.

Swansea, both in its extent, the width of its streets, and the aspect of its buildings, far exceeds all the towns in South Wales; it has of late been greatly improved; and, though its principal consequence is derived from its increasing commerce, it owes much to the mildness of its climate, and the singular beauty of the bay it commands. These advantages, together with a commodious shore for sea bathing, have made it the summer resort of that gay tribe of company which embellishes the public places on the coast of England, as well as the winter residence of many families from the less frequented parts of South Wales. A theatre and an assembly-room contribute to the general amusement, and all the resources of polished society are here at times to be found, amidst the noise of manufactures, and the buz of incessant commerce. — The remains of Swansea castle consist chiefly of one massy tower, with a curious light parapet upon Gothic arches; this castle and that of Oystermouth were built by Henry Beaumont, Earl of Warwick, in the reign of King Henry I. Oystermouth is a very fine ruin on the coast, at the distance of about four miles from Swansea, near the promontory of the Mumbles-head, which, terminating in high hills, and stretching out far into the bay, affords a safe anchorage to ships passing up or down the channel.

This head-land of the Mumbles forms a point of the peninsula of Gower, which extends in a long and narrow isthmus between the two great bays of Glamorgan and Caermarthenshire; this is in general a rocky and uninteresting district, except where the sea views enliven it; yet has fancy, or some other cause of predilection, disposed Mr. Talbot to create a highly-ornamented villa, with all its luxurious appendages, at

Penrice, near the extremity of this tract, where the castles of Penrice and Pennarth, built soon after the conquest, distinguish the bay of Oxwich. The house is an elegant modern structure, and the diversities of lawn, wood, and water, introduced with much taste and design, strongly contrast the asperities of the surrounding district, and surprise a stranger with a degree of refinement he could little expect in such a tract. — Yet may an observer, without too critic an eye, deem the trim aspect of this park, and its smooth sheet of water, inconsonant with the rough outline of the coast and country, and censure that design which has introduced the principal approach through the fictitious fragments of a modern ruin, within sight of an ancient castle, whose ivied walls overhanging the beach, seem to frown defiance at this newly-created rival. Still more must he wonder, that its owner should desert the noble seat of Margam, in the midst of a populous and plentiful country, to form a fairy palace in a dreary and desolate wild, far from the usual haunts of men, and near the extremity of a bleak peninsula.

CHAP. IV. *Entrance of Caermarthenshire at Pontardillas.—Llanelly.—View from the Heights of Pembray.—Kidwelly.—Llanstephan Castle at the Mouth of the River Towey.—Llaghvarne.—Commanding Situation of Tenby.—Great Terrace of the Ridge of Pembroke-shire.—Llamphey Court.—Pembroke and its Castle.—Stackpoole Court.—St. Govin's Well and Chapel.—Extraordinary Chasm in the Cliffs on the Coast.—Orielson.—Milford-haven, with its peculiar Scenery and Defects.—Carew Castle.—Laurency Hall.—Llanshipping.—Slebatch.—Haverfordwest.—Habberstone-Haikin.—Bay of St. Bride.—St. David's.—Splendid Ruins of its Cathedral and Palace.—Its modern ecclesiastical Establishment.—Dismal Appearance of the Country about Fisguard.—Return to Haverfordwest.*

HAVING devoted some days to the objects in the neighbourhood of Swansea, we left that place, and after crossing several pleasant hills, arrived at Pontardillas, a small inn and hamlet situated near the bridge to which it owes its name. The Lwghor river here, issuing from the high mountains of Caermarthenshire, expands itself into a broad æstuary, and passing by its town and castle, discharges itself into the sea, dividing the two counties of Caermarthen and Glamorgan. Our road lay principally on its banks, and we became environed by a low and sandy flat as we approached the miserable village of Llanelly, close to the coast, and famous for nothing but a deserted old seat of the Stepney family. — Soon afterwards we ascended the high hill of Pembray, and from this central point enjoyed a wonderful prospect over the great bay of Caermarthenshire, with its whole semicircular sweep from the extremity of Gower in Glamorganshire, to the rock of Tenby in Pembroke-shire. Descending abruptly, we soon became environed with collieries, and pursued a wretched road to Kidwelly, a small, but tolerably neat town, at a little distance from the coast. — Its castle is well worthy of observation, placed on an elevated mount above a small river, and remarkable for the perfect uniformity of its four round towers. This building is attributed to King John, and it is a singular circumstance that, together with the town, it is included in the distant, and apparently unconnected, duchy of Lancaster, from which it derives some privileges.

We left the high Caermarthen road here, and, pursuing a less considerable track, soon came in sight of the proud stream of the Towey, descending from the richest

vale in its county, and falling into the sea beneath a high mount crowned with the majestic fragments of Llanstephan castle. A wretched ferry conveyed us over this wide æstuary, and shortly afterwards by another little better we crossed the Taave, and reached the village of Llaghnarne, where we observed also some considerable remains of a castle. A long and very interesting ride carried us from thence, partly on the hills adjoining to the coast, and partly on the sands, with a variety of enchanting views to the point on which the town of Tenby in Pembrokehire, projecting far into the sea, occupies the summit of an abrupt cliff, and forms one great horn of the bay of Caermarthen.

The position of this town is extremely singular, covering the steep and wooded sides of a long and narrow rock, shelving on one side towards the bay, and on the other, to the western coast; being divided only by a narrow tract of sand, occasionally overflowed by the sea, from that long ridge of hills which forms a high terrace between the coast and the interior of Pembrokehire. This extraordinary intermixture of wood, rocks, and houses, together with the lofty spire of its church, gives the place a very romantic appearance; but the extensive sea views it commands, have a still more striking effect. On the left, the great bay of Caermarthen expands itself in a vast curve, terminating in the opposite point of Gower; and on the right, a sea almost boundless towards the west, is distinguished to the south by the rock of Calda and the more distant oval of Lundy island, which seems to divide the great tract of water between the cliff of Tenby and the opposite hills of Devonshire and Cornwall, faintly skirting the horizon. The beauty of its situation, and its fine sands, have exalted Tenby from an obscure sea-port into a considerable public place, where the influx of company is at times very great; the town has in consequence suffered much improvement, yet from the narrowness of the ridge, and its frequent declivities, the streets are inconveniently constructed, though they are embellished with many modern buildings, and a commodious hotel. The quay is tolerably convenient, and generally well filled with vessels; some inconsiderable remains of the castle of Tenby still exist near the extremity of the cliff, and on the shore beneath it we found several natural caverns of an uncommon size and figure.

Passing the narrow tract of sands which almost insulates Tenby from the rest of Pembrokehire, and crossing the great ridge of the country, we descended towards the coast to visit the ruins of Manorbear castle, built by the Normans in the time of William Rufus, which indicate great original strength and consequence, though little but their shell is now to be found. They stand on a fine eminence near their village, great part of which is also in decay, between two wild projecting hills which end in perpendicular rocks towards the shore, and open an unbounded view of the western ocean with a few rugged promontories of the Pembrokehire coast. From thence we returned to the ridge, and for many miles pursued a grand terrace on its summit, where almost the whole of Pembrokehire in full display below, presented an expanse of cultivation and enclosures, thickly overspread with villages, which bore a nearer resemblance to the rich vales of England than the mountainous scenery of Wales, and yet exhibited some features of a characteristic beauty peculiar to itself. Its inhabitants also differed as much from those of the neighbouring Welch counties, as the appearance of their country; for neither the customs nor the language of Wales, prevailed much within its limits; and the people being originally transplanted from Flanders, still retained strong marks of their origin, intermixed with many traits of the English character.

A gentle descent from this charming ridge brought us to the village and ancient mansion of Llamphey court, once a palace of the bishop of St. David's, and afterwards, when alienated from that see, a seat of the great lord Essex. Much of this building is entire, and its most conspicuous features are a Gothic window covered with ivy over a gateway, with a light parapet pervading almost the whole of the building on arches not unlike those of the castle of Swansea.—Pembroke lies at the distance of two miles from this place, and consists chiefly of one long and neat street, which leads to the magnificent remains of its castle. This proud structure, built by Henry I., and famous in history for the brave defence made by its garrison for Charles I., covers the whole of a great mount, which descends in a perpendicular cliff on each side, except towards the town, and is almost encompassed by one of those many winding æstuaries, which, fed by some small rivers, penetrate into the country from Milford-haven. A vast round tower, and a spacious cave in the rock beneath the walls, are the two principal objects in this ruin; but an indifferent apartment is shewn with some degree of triumph, which is boasted to have given birth to Henry VII. who is here styled the Conqueror of England.

The land stretches out from hence towards the coast in a broad projecting curve, and though bleak and generally bare of wood, it contains many curious objects. Stackpoole Court, the seat of lord Cawdor, is a noble mansion surrounded with fine groves and growing plantations, and ornamented with a profusion of taste and elegance. A deep and wooded glen pervades the whole, exhibiting all the romantic beauties of an inland valley, close to a stormy and tempestuous coast, whose high bleached cliffs, environing a dreary wild, overlook this second Tempe with much contrasted grandeur. Not far from hence, in a cleft on the coast, we found the chapel and legendary well of St. Govin, reputed in this country to be miraculous in the cure of various disorders; and soon afterwards reached a surprising chasm in the rocks of an immense depth. This wonderful aperture is nearly circular, and for the most part perpendicular to the level of the sea, which enters the chasm through a small fissure under an arch below, exhibiting a kind of miniature of the famous Buller of Buchan, on the north-east coast of Scotland. Hard by, another cliff attracted our notice, projecting magnificently into the sea, and forming an immense solid arch with the contiguous shore, encompassed by several rocks, which at times are almost covered by various species of sea fowl, depositing their eggs in the breeding season, and bringing up their young in these inaccessible stations. Soon afterwards we came to Orielson, a large seat of the Owen family, surrounded by extensive plantations, but greatly inferior to Stackpoole Court, both in its situation and decoration; then passing again through Pembroke, we soon reached the borders of Milford-haven, near the great ferry which crosses its principal channel, and leads to Haverfordwest. Not far from this spot the various branches of this celebrated harbour, which wind in many directions through the interior of Pembrokeshire, become united in one great basin, where is to be found that expensive, but unfinished chain of fortifications, which has incurred much ridicule and censure from its absurd position at the bottom of a deep bay, whose exterior points are undefended. The notion of its importance vanished when the job was accomplished, and the works have since languished in neglected obscurity, unapproached, except by travellers, who are attracted to the spot by the classic fame with which our immortal dramatic poet has endowed Milford-haven. This vast harbour appears perfectly land-locked on all sides, except towards its mouth, where

where the shores contracting the channel, and turning abruptly to the south-east, present an aperture capable of being defended by proper fortresses.

The interior space forms a vast oblong basin, sufficient to contain all the navies of Europe within its bosom, with abundance of safe anchorage, and every natural accommodation for their reception, artificial advantages alone being wanting. As a picturesque object, it may boast some few peculiar charms from its magnitude, the easy outline of its sloping shores, and the little bay, which enclosing the shipping and town of Habberston Haikin near its centre, forms the port of Milford. Yet is the eye of one accustomed to greater objects, and the bolder display of a rocky and mountainous coast, somewhat disappointed in finding the celebrated, and almost sacred bay of Milford-haven, unattended with those striking appendages, bare of wood, and but little marked by points of grandeur in its surrounding scenery. This observation, however, must be understood only to apply to the great basin, for numberless are the points of beauty, and profuse the woods that adorn the several arms, which extending from this vast body of water, wind in many directions through the country.

Near the extremity of one of these, about five miles from Pembroke in the contrary direction, we found the magnificent remains of Carew castle. It appears to have been built in different ages, from the contrast of the plain with the ornamented Gothic, but both are in very high preservation, and the large projecting bows of the latter are wonderfully striking. The great hall, with several other fine apartments, exhibit considerable remains of their original splendour, while all the more modern parts of the structure display that majestic combination of extent, simple grandeur, and rich decoration, which we admire in many of those buildings that bear the date of Queen Elizabeth's reign.

Following the æstuary from hence, we soon reached the beautifully wooded bank on which Laurennny is situated, whose elevated mansion at the head of a lawn, adorned with various clumps, and sloping gradually to the water's edge, had long formed our principal point of view. This place, much improved by the taste of its present owner Mr. Barlow, may justly be called the finest in Pembrokeshire, both from its internal decoration, and its commanding position at the extremity of a high ridge clothed with thick woods, with feather down in almost perpendicular beauty to a broad and winding branch of Milford-haven. In front, it opens to a smiling lawn variegated with plantations, which descends gradually to the level of Carew castle, whose bold ruin stands prominently forward at the head of the water, backed by the high ridge of hills which enclose this part of the county of Pembroke from the side of Cardiganshire.

The narrow tract of land which Laurennny occupies, lies between two branches of Milford-haven, with two ferries, one of which leads to Pembroke, and the other to Llanshipping, where we found another old seat of the Owen family. From thence a little ascent brought us to Slebatch, a handsome modern house, built by the late Mr. Barlow, and now belonging to Mr. Phillips, whose grounds are well laid out, and adjoin closely to the park of Picton castle, the ancient seat of Lord Milford.—The extensive plantations, and great outline of Picton, promise more than meets the eye on a nearer approach, little taste being displayed within, and neither the Gothic nor modern parts of the mansion exhibiting much grandeur of architecture. Several of the apartments may be called magnificent, but in the midst of a park and country open to various fine prospects, none seemed so placed as to admit them advantageously. This castle was built in the time of William Rufus, by William de Picton, a Norman baron.

About

About five miles from Picton, we reached the large town of Haverfordwest, descending in several steep streets from the top of a high hill to a branch of the haven, from whence it derives its commercial importance. This may be called the modern capital of the county, from its great extent and superior decoration; it is also become the seat of the grand session, and more appearance of opulence, with the bustle of trade, may be traced within its walls than falls to the lot of most Welch towns. With all these advantages, it abounds in narrow and ill-paved streets, nor can a few good houses, here and there awkwardly interspersed, compensate for the inconvenience of avenues almost uniformly steep and slippery. Here are the remains of a considerable castle, now converted into a prison, from which, as well as the upper parts of the town, a very extensive prospect is commanded; yet is the flourishing port of Haverfordwest, in my opinion, far inferior to the neglected county town of Pembroke, in the characteristic points of neatness, and the handsome formation of its streets.

We made an excursion from hence to visit the fishing town of Hubberston on Milford-haven, and from the high grounds in its vicinage we gained a view of that great harbour's mouth, opening between two cliffs into the Atlantic ocean, near the entrance of the Bristol channel. This being the station of the Irish packets bound to Waterford, I was surprised to find it wretchedly supplied with accommodations, but a large hotel, lately built at Milford on the opposite side of the river, is likely soon to remove this cause of general complaint.

A second expedition led us by the ruins of Roche castle, over a bleak and unpleasant country, on the edge of the dangerous bay of St. Bride, and across the deep hollow of the creek of Solfay, to the deserted city of St. David's. Hardly a single tree decorated this wild extremity of the coast of Pembrokeshire; a scanty shew of habitations, more like huts than cottages, were thinly interspersed; and the city itself, when we approached it, bore the aspect of an insignificant village, situated on a small eminence near that projecting head-land which terminates in the pile of rocks called St. David's head. In a deep hollow beneath the town, sheltered from those winds which ravage this stormy coast, we found a few good houses appropriated to the ecclesiastical establishment, in the midst of which the cathedral appeared rising in renovated magnificence, like a phoenix amidst the splendid ashes of the ruined grandeur of St. David's. This church is far superior to that of Llandaffe in its preservation, and has received ample justice from the attention and expence bestowed on it by its modern proprietors, the whole being in good repair, and the west front having lately been rebuilt in a taste perfectly corresponding with the rest of the structure. Its tower is finely carved in fret-work, and, like many of our English cathedrals, the Gothic ornaments of the choir contrast the Saxon pillars and arches of the great aisle, which are themselves curiously worked in wreaths. A ceiling of Irish oak also is much to be admired, together with a very perfect Mosaic pavement. Bishop Vaughan's chapel lies behind the choir, where we were much struck with a highly wrought stone ceiling, similar to the finest specimens of Henry VII.'s reign, with which all the surrounding ornaments of the building correspond. St. Mary's chapel must have been still more elegant, from the curious remains of pillars and arches with which its space is strewn; various also and extraordinary are the devices in sculpture to be found there, including the heads of the seven sisters who were said to have contributed to the building. The chapter-house also has a fine coved ceiling, and St. Mary's hall, now in ruins, exhibits the remains of much ancient grandeur. From the cathedral and these adjacent buildings, we visited the ruins of the bishop's palace, which must formerly have been a magnificent, and even a princely structure. Two parts of its quadrangle are yet nearly
entire,

entire, and these are crowned with a light Gothic parapet, similar to those at Swansea castle and Llamphey Court. The arch by which we entered the King's hall is singularly fine, with the statues of King John and his Queen over it; the hall itself is a grand room, 88 feet in length by 30, and at its eastern end is a curious circular window, like a wheel, with a rim, spokes, and centre, wrought in the finest Gothic, and still quite entire. This room was built after the rest of the palace, for the reception of King John and Queen Mary on their return from Ireland, being much larger than the bishop's hall, which is notwithstanding a fine building. The chapel contains the remains of a font, with some pieces of sculpture, and the kitchen is nearly entire, with four chimneys and four arches, supported by a solid pillar in the middle. After devoting several hours to these fine remnants of antiquity, we ascended to the poor street which bears the title of a city and found very moderate accommodation at the house dignified with the name of an inn.

Saint David's, said to have been a Roman station, was the seat of the primacy of Wales, transferred here from Caerleon by St. David in the sixth century. Its modern ecclesiastical establishment is highly respectable, consisting of the bishop, six canon residentiaries, four archdeacons, and several minor canons. The modern residence of the bishop, these splendid ruins being no longer habitable, has been transferred to Aberguilly near Caermarthen, a central part of his diocese, in a pleasant country. One of the canons is generally resident at St. David's in rotation, where a handsome house is appropriated for his habitation, and the rest of the institution appear to be well lodged. Much praise is due to the establishment for the excellent repair in which the cathedral and those buildings which are still in use, are preserved; and the service of the church in this remote corner of the kingdom, where there are few to witness it, is conducted with a degree of decorum and attention which would put some of our proudest choirs in England to the blush.

Nothing, except the similar extremity of the Land's end in Cornwall, can be imagined more dreary and desolate than the aspect of this country; which, open to two tempestuous seas, is almost deprived of wood, and all living fences, and can hardly admit any degree of verdure or vegetation, except in a few favoured hollows. The coast, turning here to the north, forms one horn of the great bay of Cardigan, and the same dismal and deserted appearance pervades the whole as far as Fisguard, a miserable port on the bay, rendered famous of late by the gallant and successful enterprize of the Welch peasantry, under the command of Lord Cawdor, against 1400 French invaders. The Cardigan road extends from hence on the sea-shore with little improvement of scenery by the poor fishing town of Newport, but we left it at Fisguard, and pursued an excellent new-made road, which, leaving the bare heights of Procellé, the only mountain Pembrokeshire can boast, on the left, descended from the dismal tract of country I have described, and beautifully winding through a romantic glen, brought us back to the well-wooded and cultivated district surrounding Haverfordwest, intersected by the broad arms of Milford-haven.

CHAP. V. — *St. Clear.*—*Caermarthen.*—*Aberguilly.*—*Middleton-hall.*—*Great Burst of Prospect in the Vale of Towey.*—*Russland Castle.*—*Grongar Hill.*—*Golden Grove*—*Llandilo.*—*Dinevawr Park and Castle.*—*Glen-beir Waterfall.*—*Caraigcennin Castle.*—*Upper Vale of Towey.*—*Llanymdover.*—*The Trecastle Mountain.*—*Beautiful Pass of Cwm-Dwr to Trecastle.*—*Return to Brecknock.*—*Castle Madoc.*—*Character of the late Mr. Powell*—*Fine Situation of Builth on the Wye.*—*Llandrindod Wells.*—*Llanwrtd Wells.*—*Pass of the Hills from Llanymdover into Cardiganshire.*—*Llanbedir.*—*Newcastle on Tivy.*—*Cardigan and its Castle.*—*Kilgarran Castle.*—*Coidmore.*—*Dreary Appearance of the great Bay of Cardigan.*—*Romantic Valley of the Eiron.*—*Abereiron.*—*Aberystwith and its Castle.*

WE now travelled in the inland direction, and leaving the domain of Picton castle on the right, pursued the great road through the heart of Pembrokeshire, passing through the irregular town of Narbeth, graced with the picturesque ruin of its castle. At the little village of St. Clear, we re-entered the county of Caermarthen; from whence, winding through a pleasant and well-wooded valley, we soon approached its capital. The interior of Caermarthen disappointed me, its streets being narrow and unequal, though interspersed with many good houses, and some considerable public buildings. To the beauty of its situation it is difficult to do ample justice, placed as it is at the head of one of the richest vales in South Wales, on the north bank of the fine river Towey, which is navigable for large vessels to its bridge. Our course led us up this enchanting vale, for the most part close to the banks of the Towey, which by its incessant windings through a plain distinguished by several conic hills clothed with rich wood, gave perpetual variety to a succession of some of the finest landscapes in nature. At Aberguilly we passed the palace of the bishop of St. David's, near one of the boldest sweeps of the river, which had no great points of architecture to recommend it, and soon afterwards crossing the Towey, deviated from the high road to the right, for the purpose of viewing Middleton hall, the splendid modern seat of Mr. Paxton, which far eclipses the proudest of the Cambrian mansions in Asiatic pomp and splendour. This house may be justly admired for the exterior beauty of its figure, as well as for its internal elegance and decoration; yet does a vast pile of Portland stone, curiously chiseled, and finished in the highest style of the Grecian taste, appear to me somewhat inconsonant with the more imposing, though simple majesty, of the surrounding country. Neither did its situation please me, confined by a narrow and ill-planted park, and perched on the summit of one of the great boundaries of the vale of Towey, too high to command its beauties; where the eye, overlooking the course of the river, encountered only those wild and distant hills which divide the counties of Caermarthen and Cardigan.

We returned from Middleton hall with pleasure, to resume our progress in the charming vale below, where a prospect soon burst upon our sight, glowing with all the enchantments of a grandly picturesque outline, romantic beauty, and classic fame. A vast amphitheatre of wild mountains, aspiring in a variety of pointed summits, formed the head of the vale, beneath which the groves encircling the proud ruin of Dinevawr castle, clothed the summit, and abrupt sides of its hilly park, to the very margin of the river; which winding in perpetual meanders, became lost at last to the eye beneath their impending shade. The vale itself, expanding as it ascended to the foot of the mountains, became thickly spread with villages: the fine, but alas! denuded hills of Golden grove, fronted the leafy grandeur of Dinevawr; the broken walls of Russland castle

castle appeared as starting forth from an eminence in the plain, and Grongar hill exalted itself in front, endowed with all the natural charms of this delightful landscape, and immortalized by the poetic strains of Dyer.

Encompassed with this interesting scenery, we proceeded up the vale, and passing through the park of Golden grove, not far from its ancient mansion, we approached the old bridge of Llandilo immediately beneath the groves of Dinevawr, and crossing the Towey, arrived at the centre of that town by a marvellously steep, narrow, and winding street. Little can be said of the interior of this place; but like many other Welch towns, it may claim much admiration from the extreme beauty of its situation, to which the adjoining park and mansion of Dinevawr castle, add the brightest ornament.

This grand seat of the Rice family, lately ennobled by the title of Dinevawr, occupies an eminence immediately above the town, covering several undulating hills with its rich groves and verdant lawns, in the centre of one of which the house, a plain modern structure, is placed. The ruin of the castle, which was granted to Sir Rice ap-Thomas by Henry VII. stands on the highest point in the grounds, where the hills, richly clothed with wood to the very bottom, descend abruptly to the bed of the Towey, and from hence all the striking beauties of this enchanting tract may be enjoyed in full display.

A high chain of rude unequal mountains crosses the head of the plain here at right angles, forming three separate vales, widely differing from each other in form and character. From the south-west an Alpine valley descends from a cluster of mountains, whose misshapen heads present a bold barrier against the coast of Glamorganshire; towards the north-east, a wild vale extends to the foot of the hills, which bound the counties of Cardigan and Brecknock, thinly interspersed with woods and villages, but marked with some peculiar features of beauty. The Towey here descends from its native mountains, and from a rapid rivulet gradually increases to a fine river, which, passing under the arches of Llandilo bridge, glides beneath the groves and castle of Dinevawr, forming the rich vale and plains through which we had ascended from Caermarthen, where Golden grove, Russland castle, and Grongar hill, appear as distinguished objects, beautifully interwoven by the frequent meanders of the river.

Before we left Llandilo, we made an excursion on the Swansea road, to visit the cataract of Glen-hier in a gentleman's ground, which, though not very considerable, exhibits a bold sheet of water, broken in the middle by a ridge of projecting rocks, and falling into a large basin, from whence the little river that feeds it pursues its course with great rapidity through the narrow passage to which the impending rocks on each side confine it. A very difficult road conveyed us from thence to the high insulated rock which sustains the ruin of Caraigcennin castle, rising perpendicularly near 400 feet from the plain on every side, except that by which we ascended it. This fortress was built in the reign of Henry I. and must have been nearly impregnable at that period from its position; its remains are very inconsiderable, but the prospect it commands is surprisingly extensive, comprehending most part of the three vales I have described, with their surrounding mountains, and through an aperture in them the sea with its bold coast near Swansea. In our descent we passed through a large arched passage, lighted by small windows, after the manner of the gallery at Caerphilli, and descended by a long flight of steps, to a subterraneous cave, which was connected with the castle; but the path beginning to grow slippery, and the descent

steep, we were obliged to relinquish our design of exploring it further for want of light.

Returning to Llandilo, we passed along the upper vale of the Towy, which, though far inferior to the rich display of the plains we had traversed on its banks from Caermarthen, abounds in some beauties of a different nature.—Less abundant in wood, and less verdant in its meadows, cultivation and pasture still appeared sweetly intermixed on each side of the winding stream, and the road, formed on a considerable terrace, commanded every object, passing between the elevated seat and groves of Taliaris, and the town of Llangaddock-Cressony on the other side of the river. By an easy ford we crossed the Towy just before we reached Llanymdover, a straggling and very irregular town, encompassed by streams in almost every direction, where we found nothing worthy of observation except the small remains of its castle on a mount.

Llanymdover lies near the head of the upper vale of Towy, bounded by a range of wild hills, which divide it from Cardiganshire and the Trecastle mountain, which blocks it up on the Brecknockshire side. Over this great barrier the high road towards England used to pass, and all travellers, after attaining its summit, and traversing its dreary wild on that elevated exposure, were obliged to pursue a rocky and uneven descent into the vale of the Uske in Brecknockshire. The great improvement which the roads of this country have of late experienced, has removed this inconvenience, and substituted a winding pass through a beautifully wooded glen, which encircles the mountain. In the Highlands of Scotland, and the wilder parts of North Wales, I have seen bolder passes of this nature, attended with the striking accompaniment of high rocks and impetuous torrents, but I have scarcely ever found one that exceeded this in the more placid stile of mountain scenery. Here the road sometimes crosses, and at others impends over the rivulet, where the hills, partly wooded and partly cultivated, frequently approach closely to each other; and yet occasionally leave sufficient space for a pleasing stripe of verdant meadow, and a white cottage here and there charmingly situated on its banks. This pass of Cwm-Dwr extends for nine miles round the base of the mountain, and reaches Trecastle at no greater distance than the original road over the mountain from Llanymdover.

A more miserable village than Trecastle can scarcely be found, encircled by wild mountains at the head of the upper vale of the Uske, which soon expanding itself after passing the groves of Devenog and Luchyntven, restored us to all those enchantments of society we had before delighted in, and the fine scenery already described about Penpont and Brecknock.

Too soon were we warned by the lapse of time to recommence our progress, when we bade our farewell to Brecknock, ascending an abrupt hill from its priory, and pursued a road abounding in short and steep declivities towards Builth. We now entered a valley of a different description from those of the Uske, narrow and winding with impending hills yet not unmixed with villages and cultivation, which, together with the dark evergreen of the yew-tree, were interspersed so as to remind me of some of the downish bourns in Hampshire and Wiltshire. Occasional patches of wood diversified the scene pleasantly, and these increased in magnitude as we approached Castle Madoc, the seat of Mr. Powell, by whom we were received with great hospitality. This respectable character at a very advanced age, enjoyed much of the vigour of youth, with the happiest convivial talents, and exhibited the rare appearance of a provincial veteran, of family and fortune, growing old, after an active life, on his native soil.

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He is since gone to reap the reward of his many virtues, leaving a worthy daughter, who was his constant companion, to inherit his estates, and to join a whole country in deploring his loss.

Still winding along the valley by the side of its little rivulet, we at length reached those wild hills which had long formed its boundary, and after crossing them, descended abruptly to the great vale through which the Wye pursues its course, surrounded by those majestic mountains which environ the little plain in which Builth is situated. This small market town, divided only by its bridge from Radnorshire, is singularly built in two parallel streets, forming irregular terraces from the deep declivity of the ground; the principal of these, which is nearest the river, is very narrow and ill-shaped, and the houses, for the most part, are mean and irregular. Builth has been long highly extolled for the salubrity of its air, and the singular beauty of its position, on the bank of the finest of all the rivers of South Wales, encompassed by a magnificent outline of romantic scenery.

Curiosity, and the desire of visiting some worthy friends who were fixed for a while at Llandrindod wells, for the benefit of their waters, attracted us to that obscure spot in which they are situated, which we found it no easy matter to reach by a road difficult to be traced, and still more arduous to be travelled. About seven miles from Builth, in the midst of a wild common, at length we saw a few scattered houses near these celebrated springs, which seem justly to have acquired a high reputation in the country, combining, like those of Harrowgate, various degrees of salt and sulphur, with perhaps some local additions. The large building which was formed for the reception of company, having been converted into a private residence, we found a very contracted public-house the only place of accommodation, and were surprised it could contain so many inhabitants as then occupied it. It has since, I understand, been enlarged; but even when we saw it, our friends assured us that they were well contented with their position. From the cursory view I took of Llandrindod wells, I was sufficiently convinced, that nothing but the adventitious circumstances of good roads and superior accommodations was wanting to place this obscure cluster of cottages on a par with our most crowded public places, most of whom it far eclipses in its position on a fine open common, surrounded by bold hills, and peculiarly distinguishable for the goodness of its air. In our return to Builth, we deviated a little from the road before we reached the town, to visit the new-built house of Mr. Thomas, who received us with great politeness, and exhibited a wonderful display of the plain of Builth and its surrounding hills from his windows. The house was then unfinished, but its commanding position was extremely striking: the advantage of a good access was wanting; but this, I understand, has in part been since obtained.

The road we pursued from Builth left the vale through which the Wye descends on the right, and followed another by the side of a rivulet for a considerable length, till it met a narrower valley which led to the wells of Llanwrtyd, which are similar in quality to those of Llandrindod; and, though not equal in point of situation, are alike difficult of access and deficient in proper accommodation. Just at the junction of this valley we found the little inn of Tavern-y-prydd, and soon afterwards climbing a high mountain, traversed a wild plain on its summit, from which an easy descent brought us to the stately, but deserted mansion of Glanbran, in a well wooded park, and from thence back to Llanymdover, in the upper vale of Towey.

From Llanymdover we turned our course towards Cardiganshire, and crossed the Towey by a bridge of one arch, which is said to be executed by the same workman

who constructed the Pont-i-prydd in Glamorganshire. We now began to ascend the hills, and a new road cut on a shelf beneath their summit, conducted us for several miles without great difficulty, except where a few steep, but short ascents, interrupted our progress. Near the poor little village of Pynfant we descended to the banks of a rivulet called the Cothee, which we found some difficulty in crossing three times by a very rugged track, the bridges in the direct road not being yet finished. A marshy common succeeded, and the road, which seemed yet in its infancy, became rough and difficult, till a very laborious ascent brought us to the summit of one of the great hills which bound this district. From thence we first gained a view of the vale through which the Tivy runs, intersecting a broad plain with its manifold windings, and crossed in the centre by a narrow bridge of one arch, just below the town of Llanbeder. In front, the high moorish hills of Cardiganshire ran parallel with the vale which extended on the right to Tregaron, and the borders of Radnorshire. Cultivation rose higher up their sides than the dreariness of the country would seem to admit, and woods, though thinly scattered, were not wanting to diversify the prospect; which partook in an uncommon degree of the wildness of a mountainous district, and the enclosures of a populous and inhabited country. The river Tivy, here but a narrow stream, admitted us into Cardiganshire by a steep and inconvenient bridge; about half a mile above which the little beggarly town of Llanbeder made but an inconsiderable figure. Close to it, a large old seat of Sir Herbert Lloyd exhibited a striking appearance, with its four great towers, crowned with domes, in the midst of a well planted enclosure; but it appeared to have been long neglected, and now scarcely inhabited.

A very arduous ride of twenty miles, with a perpetual succession of steep hills, conducted us through a country abounding in inequalities, not unlike those of the northern parts of Devonshire, to Newcastle, where the Tivy began to assume a more considerable appearance. From thence, after crossing several more similar eminences, we approached the little county town of Cardigan, pleasantly situated near the mouth of the river, and protected from the sea by a long projecting hill which made it appear land-locked. This place is tolerably built, and bears a neat aspect, notwithstanding the declivity of its streets; a handsome old bridge connects it with the opposite bank of the Tivy, and considerable vessels can approach its quay. Cardigan was originally called Aberdyff, from being contiguous to the point where the Tivy falls into the sea; its castle, of which there are considerable remains, was built by Gilbert de Clare in the reign of Henry II. and destroyed by Rees-ap-Griffiths, prince of South Wales.

The tide unfortunately would not serve for the expedition we meditated by water to Kilgarren castle, and we were obliged to approach its venerable remains by a rough road over a neck of land, which displayed none of the beauties of the Tivy. The town of Kilgarren, consisting of one irregular and ill-built street, is placed at the extremity of a remote corner of Pembrokeshire, about three miles from Cardigan, where its castle projects proudly over the river, as it winds beautifully between steep banks thickly fringed with wood, and interspersed with rocks. The opposite seat and groves of Coidmore add much to the prospect, and the two remaining round towers of Kilgarren castle, with its ivied walls, present a noble and interesting object, when viewed from thence. This castle was built by William Marshall Earl of Pembroke, in 1222; a few miles above it on the Tivy, is a very considerable cataract, attended with much romantic scenery, and forming a salmon leap.

Taking the Aberystwith road from Cardigan, the sea soon became visible on the left, and after traversing a few wild hills we obtained a distant view of the opposite horn of the

the great bay of Cardigan, formed by the extreme point of Caernarvonshire terminating in the isle of Bardsea. Across the vast expanse of water several of the vast hills near Pwlwhelli, among which the rock of Porthyndyllyn head was most conspicuous, formed a grand boundary, while at the bottom of the bay, Cader Idris, with many of the mountains of Merionethshire, elevated their mightier summits, and welcomed our approach to the majestic scenery of North Wales. These striking objects, varying alternately with our course, amused us for many miles; and indeed we had nothing else to observe, for the country immediately surrounding us was as dreary and uninteresting as the extreme points of the peninsulas of Cornwall and Anglesea. Our road too, after a few miles, degenerated into a rugged and uneven track, not unattended with intricacy; and our vicinity to the coast was the only proof we could obtain of our not having deviated, there being but few inhabitants. Near the village of Llanarth some few wooded banks intervened, and the prospect from the high hill by which we descended to Abereiron happily contrasted the general dreariness of the country, where the Eiron, descending through a narrow vale between steep impending hills, some of which are clothed with wood and intermixed with villages and pastures, tears its way over a pebbly bottom, and falls into the sea a little below a picturesque bridge by which we crossed it. This stripe of romantic scenery in so bare a country, a little reminded me of the favourite spot of Ivy-bridge in Devonshire, where a similar stream passes through a bridge not unlike that of Abereiron, with a neat inn situated in the same manner at the foot of it.

The sea views, comprehending the Caernarvonshire hills on the opposite side of the bay, continued very fine as we advanced towards Aberystwith, and most agreeably beguiled the labours of the road, which winding over the rocky bases of incessant hills, forbade any expeditious advance. In a narrow vale we crossed the Ystwith, by a bridge profusely decorated with ivy, and ascending a steep rock from its banks, soon came in sight of the greater vale of the Rhydol, and the town of Aberystwith, situated on a bold eminence overhanging the sea close to its mouth. This town, forming a fine object as viewed from a sufficient distance, rather disappointed me when we reached it, the streets being steep and ill-paved, while the houses, built of the black slate-stone of the country, gave the whole a gloomy and rather dirty appearance. It has long been a favourite resort for sea-bathing to the inhabitants of the neighbouring counties, and we found it full of company, who must have been contented with very moderate accommodation. The beach is sufficiently convenient, and a public walk, traced with some taste and ingenuity among the fragments of its castle, which was built by Gilbert de Strongbow in the reign of Henry I., commands the whole coast with the contiguous mouths of the Ystwith and the Rhydol, on one side, and a beautiful view of the vale which descends with the latter river on the other.

CHAP. VI.—*Wild romantic Beauties of the Vale of Rhydol.—Distant View of Plinlimmon.—The Devil's Bridge.—Falls of the Monach.—Great Pass of the Mountains towards the Vale of Ystwith.—Singular Creation of Harod.—Cwm-Ystwith.—Striking View from the Cwm-tythen Hills over the Plain formed by the Wye.—Rhyadergowy, and the View from the Mountain above it.—Penybont.—Knighton.—Brampton-brian.—Lentwardine Bridge.—Presteigne.—Kington.—Old and New Radnor.—Radnor Forest and its Waterfall. Bad State of the Roads in that Part of the Country.—Fine Ride on the Banks of the Wye from Builth to the Hay, by Llagoed Castle, and the beautiful Spot of Erwood.—Clyro.—High Character of its Rector, the Archdeacon of Brecknock.—Striking Views from the One-tree-hill in Clyro Forest, towards Wales and England.—Entrance into the rich Plain of Herefordshire.—Hereford.—Ledbury.—Immense Display from the Malvern Hills.—Malvern Wells.—Great Malvern and its Abbey.—Grandeur and Opulence of Worcester.*

THROUGH the vale of Rhydol we were destined to pursue our course, being now arrived at the boundary of North Wales, and bidding our farewell to the coast we took an eastward direction. The road conveyed us for many miles over a ridge of wild hills, forming the southern barrier of that romantic district, and commanding all its beauties in great perfection. Elevated almost into the clouds, we looked down on the coast, where Aberystwith seemed, like Venice, rising out of the sea, and the decayed town and church of Llanbadern Vawr, formerly a Roman station and the see of a British bishop, occupied an eminence somewhat higher in the valley. Beneath us a few scattered cottages, and some houses of a higher order, rose on each side under neat plantations and tufted groves, while the rapid Rhydol intersected a range of the greenest meadows with its manifold windings. At length the vale contracted itself as it grew wilder, the river became engulfed within deep banks fringed with wood, the habitations of men and all traces of cultivation vanishing, while every thing around us assumed the most savage appearance that nature can impress on her rudest regions. The high mountains of Cwm-ystwith bounding Radnorshire, rose in a number of unequal points before us, while on our left, towards the county of Montgomery, and the confines of North Wales, the mighty Plinlimmon, the lord of this extensive desert, swelled into a pile of mountains from its extended base, and crowned the whole with one lofty summit, spreading widely like a dome above the rest.

At length we began to descend, and taking the Llanidloes road, soon reached the hollow formed by the Rhydol near that singular edifice which bears the name of the Devil's bridge.—However celebrated the original structure might be from the magic powers with which its fabulous builder has been graced, it seems to have been superseded by some happier architect, as the modern bridge exhibits a finer curve, and avoids a very steep descent on each side, by which the older was approached. Both the arches remain, and it is not one of the least singular circumstances attending this spot, that two bridges over the same chasm are to be seen in the same point of view, one being built perpendicularly over the other. Each of these arches spring from rock to rock over a deep abyss, under which the dark stream of the Monach is with difficulty distinguished, working its way through the hollow with great impetuosity. Immediately below the bridge it issues again into light, and precipitates itself with wonderful force in a succession of falls almost perpendicular for near 200 feet through a thick wood, from some of the lower parts of which this grand cataract is to be viewed with considerable

considerable advantage. Immediately below the fall, the Rhydol receives the Monach, being there itself little other than a torrent forcing its passage between deep banks fringed with wood, from its native caverns in the base of Plinlimmon.

Leaving here the course of the Rhydol, we soon regained the ridge we had quitted, and proceeding on the Cwnystwith road, rose by a succession of stages impending over frightful precipices through the hollows of the mountains almost to their summit, from whence all the wild hills encompassing the vale we had quitted, appeared far below us, bounded by the sea, which seemed like a curtain let down before them. This vast ridge separates the parallel vallies of the Rhydol and the Ystwith, to the latter of which we descended through the rising plantations of Havod, with which its owner, Mr. Johnes, has decorated an immense tract of country. The surprise is scarcely to be described with which his highly ornamented territory bursts upon our view, teeming with every elegance of art and nature, and rising, like another paradise, in the midst of a profound desert. The steep banks of the Ystwith are here fringed with the finest wood, and the house, a superb structure imitating the Gothic, occupies an elevated spot commanding the whole of the vale, with the river winding finely below.—A well formed lawn extends far beneath the house, beyond which the woods rise in great beauty, and through them a number of walks are formed with considerable taste, being conducted by the side of such cataracts as abound in this hilly region, improved by every addition of art.—After all, this place, though so far perfected, may yet be considered as in its infancy, when we contemplate the various plans perpetually forming and carrying into execution by the active genius of its proprietor, who finds employment for a whole country in the extent of his works. For this he has ample scope in the number of roads he is now conducting through his territory, and the various additional buildings with which he is obliged to encompass his house, as every trade necessary to the existence, and even to many of the luxuries of life, must be exercised within his own walls, there being no towns, and very scanty villages, in this district, within the distance of fifteen miles.—Thus, notwithstanding the many natural and artificial beauties of Havod, a stranger, while he commends the taste with which it is embellished, cannot but admire the singularity of this undertaking, in the wilds of an uninhabited desert, far from any practicable neighbourhood, and at a distance from the common resorts of mankind.

Ascending a little again through the woods of Havod, we soon regained the road, and reached the miserable village of Cwm-ystwith, almost buried beneath the high hills which divide this part of the country from Radnorshire.

We soon entered that county, and after coasting the river Eilon for several miles on a deplorable road abounding in precipices, we attained the summit of the Cwm-tythen hills, commanding an uninterrupted view over the dreary expanse we had passed, which exhibited extreme wildness without majesty, the mountains in this country abounding in a variety of grassy summits not unlike a species of coarse downs, but far inferior both in height and shapes to those of Cardiganshire. Still, however, the banks of the Eilon, with its attendant vallies, have their peculiar lines of beauty, and the striking example of Mr. Johnes has induced Mr. Grove to build a house, and form an ornamented territory, with considerable taste, in one of these deserts, which he prefers to his fine seat in Wiltshire.

Except this place, the whole country appeared bare and uncultivated; nor do I ever remember a more dreary solitude than that which prevailed on the Cwm-tythen hills, where not a single tree varied the scene, and no human habitation was distinguishable. Over their gloomy hollows we proceeded in mournful silence, till reach-

ing their extreme point, a glorious view burst upon us in front, where the Wye, emerging from a deep and narrow channel fringed with wood, issued forth into the spacious plain in which Rhyadergowy is situated, and then pursued its course through a fine vale beneath immense hills to Builth, beyond which some of the Brecknockshire mountains closed the prospect at a great distance.—The road now became scarcely passable, as a dangerous and rocky descent kept us in perpetual alarm for several miles till we crossed the roaring torrent of the Wye, by a fine single arch thrown from rock to rock, and entered the little town of Rhyadergowy.

An air of greater neatness than might be expected prevails in this remote place, which is regularly laid out in four streets, with a market-house in the centre, after the manner of the towns of North Wales. The inn, though small and rustic, is sufficiently commodious, and the obliging attentions of its landlord, with the simplicity of his manners, cannot fail to recommend it to a stranger; the buildings of the town also, though mean, are not ruinous, and throughout the whole, the poverty of a wild district, very difficult of access, is relieved by an appearance of comfort and cleanliness.

The mountains surrounding the plain in which this town is placed, almost rival those of North Wales in majesty, and from one of the highest of them, which I ascended with much difficulty, I enjoyed a prospect which cannot easily be surpassed either for its beauty or grandeur.

An amphitheatre of mighty hills surrounded the plain in which Rhyadergowy, with its two churches, formed the principal feature; several vast chasms intersected this barrier, through one of which the Wye rolled its rapid stream, passing under a noble arch springing from cliff to cliff close beneath the town, and soon afterwards received the accession of the Eilon issuing from another cleft in the chain of mountains.—Immediately after this the river engulfed itself between two impending rocks, pursuing a narrow channel for several miles; soon after which it emerged in sight into the spacious and highly cultivated vale in which Builth is situated.—Towards the north dark and craggy mountains obstructed the view, finely contrasted with the grassy hills of the forest of Radnor, which exalted themselves in the east at a considerable distance, beyond a pleasant valley interspersed with pastures, villages, and corn-fields, and distinguished by several waving eminences tufted with wood.—Through this valley we pursued our course from Rhyadergowy to Penybont, leaving the wells of Llandrindod, a few miles on the right, approachable on this side by a road even less practicable than that from Builth.—At the little obscure hamlet of Penybont we crossed the Ithon, and leaving the smooth and pointed summits of Radnor forest on the right, pursued a rugged tract over a wild range of downish hills to a deep vale, from the head of which Knighton, descending in several steep streets, presents a picturesque object to the adjacent country. This romantic valley, surrounded by high hills, and well clothed with wood, is formed by the winding course of the river Teme, near the banks of which the road is in a great measure carried.—Great and memorable are the remnants of antiquity to be found in this district, the camp of Caractacus being yet in high preservation on the hills towards Clunn, and that of Cæsar easily to be traced on an eminence impending over the valley; Offa's dyke also passes by Knighton, extending from the mouth of the Dee in a slant direction across the kingdom to Weymouth.

In this valley the rich groves of Brampton Bryan, an old seat of the Oxford family, used to adorn the steep sides of its extensive park; but these have lately been despoiled of their grandeur by the ruthless axe, leaving a naked territory to bewail the
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the loss of its chief ornament. At the pleasant village and bridge of Lentwardine we left the Ludlow road, and crossing several hills on the right of the valley of the Teme, soon came to Presteigne, the modern capital of Radnorshire. This place exhibits strong traces of an original extent and grandeur, far superior to its present appearance; its few remaining streets are neat and well-formed, and a pleasant public walk is traced round the eminence which was the site of its castle, from whence the little vale enclosing Presteigne, and watered by the Lug, appears to great advantage, with an ancient Gothic mansion rising from a rock in its centre.

The first considerable ascent from Presteigne brought us into the rich plain of Herefordshire, and passing under Lord Oxford's extensive park and sheep-walks at Eywood, we came to Kington, a considerable market town at the edge of the county, observable only for the pleasing view from its church-yard. Here we turned again into Radnorshire, pursuing a romantic descent beneath the lofty rock of Stanner, till the high church of Old Radnor appeared on a summit above a small plain, which we crossed between two handsome seats belonging to two families bearing the name of Lewis, to arrive at the county town of New Radnor. Old Radnor, though formerly a Roman station, has little to boast of except its church, scarcely equalling the dignity of a village, though I believe it shares in the privileges of a borough with New Radnor, which is very little its superior. A more beggarly place indeed than the latter can hardly be imagined, consisting of a few miserable cottages which form an irregular street, with a building like a barn for its county hall, and almost buried within that verdant chain of hills which, rising in a variety of high points, covered with grass to the top, enclose the district bearing the name of Radnor forest. Winding for a long time within their hollows, we visited the cataract, which, from its precipitous descent, has obtained the name of "Water breaks its neck." Our expectations were perhaps raised too high from the fame this waterfall had acquired; but when we saw it, neither the body of water nor its position appeared very remarkable. At length we emerged from this confined pass, and leaving the direct tract to Rhyadergowy on the right, entered a wild plain not unmixed with fine features, but almost impervious to a carriage.

The public ways of Radnorshire may indeed be justly censured, and their turnpike roads may rank among the worst in the kingdom; for, notwithstanding the frequency of their tolls, and the abundance of good materials in the country, they are generally suffered to languish in a shameful state of neglect, for want of a little public spirit. The track which we pursued now, sinking from a bad turnpike-road into a rugged cart-way, led us with some hazard and considerable inconvenience to the banks of the Wye, which we crossed to re-enter the town of Builth in Brecknockshire.

Having taken a farewell view of the charming vicinage of this place from its bridge, and the mount of its castle, we proceeded on the banks of the Wye down one of the most beautiful vallies in the kingdom, to the Hay. That noble river rolling with majestic rapidity, and sometimes precipitating itself over great ledges of rock, formed the course of the valley with inexpressible grandeur, frequently disporting itself in broad curves, and sweeping all the level. The road, formed principally on a high bank, disclosed all the beauties of this enchanting district, where the bold rocks of Abereddo, with the grassy and wooded hills of Radnorshire, contrasted the wilder eminences of Brecknockshire, which terminated proudly in the broad expanse, deep furrows, and abrupt points, of the black mountain, bounding the horizon at a considerable distance.

In the centre of this charming territory the rich groves and extensive domain of Llangoed castle appeared to languish in undeserved neglect, and deplore the fate which, after a long and ruinous desertion, has consigned them to a stranger. Not far from hence we reached the little public house and hamlet of Erwood, in one of the most delightful spots that can be formed by nature, where a rapid stream rushes from the mountains beneath a high wooded hill, and falls precipitously into the Wye, which there forms one of its boldest curves round the Radnorshire bank, sweetly chequered with villages and hanging woods. Here we found a wonderfully neat house, plenty of rustic fare, and a cheerful old landlady, who might justly be styled,

“ the gay historian of the smiling plain.”

We now approached nearer to the Black-mountain, which towering over the intervening hills that formed its base, appeared the sole monarch of the country, till a valley opening abruptly on the right, disclosed the superior heights and pointed summits of the Van of Brecknock. The Wye, there arrested in its course by these mighty barriers, turned abruptly to the left; when entering a richer and more expanded vale, it descended in a clear, but still impetuous stream, into the great plain of Herefordshire, all whose riches then disclosed themselves to sight.—We continued on its banks, leaving Maesleugh, the fine situation of Mr. Wilkins, on the opposite hill of Radnorshire, and soon joining the Brecknock turnpike road, proceeded by the ruins of the late elegant bridge of Glasbury to the Hay, a small market town at the extremity of Brecknockshire.

The Hay has little to boast of in its interior, except the remains of its ancient castle, which is now converted into a modern house belonging to the Wellington family, but the view from its church-yard is striking. It has suffered a great loss in its large stone bridge, which (together with those of Glasbury and Whitney) was carried away by the resistless torrent of the Wye in the winter of 1794. Awkward ferries, bad fords, and temporary wooden bridges, have since formed the only communication between this part of the country and the numerous villages on the opposite bank of Radnorshire, to one of which we directed our course for the purpose of visiting my most valuable friend the Rev. Mr. Edwards, the archdeacon of Brecknock, and rector of Clyro, where he resides.

This distinguished character, possessing all the elegance of literary acquisition and all the urbanity of polished life, forms the rare union of those captivating qualities with the higher virtues of strict integrity, and active goodness devoted to the service of his God and his country. His decorous and attentive performance of his professional duties can only be equalled by the judgment and incorruptible fidelity with which he dispenses justice as a magistrate, and those eminently convivial talents with which he sweetens the hours of relaxation, adapting his conversation with wonderful success to all ranks of people which fall within his enlarged or contracted circle.

This imperfect, but just tribute of praise, will, I hope, be excused from one who has often profited by his experience, been benefited by his friendship, and tried the real value of his society both in this and in foreign countries.—Neither can his lady be exempted from her due share of commendation, who, though a foreigner by birth, has imported the lively sense, without the vanity or follies, of her country; and who truly participates with her worthy husband in dispensing the blessings of society, and
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in all the energy of doing good.—Thus this excellent pair live, respected by a rustic neighbourhood, who, equally with their more polished visitors, enliven the social board of Clyro, where, often admitted as a guest, I have experienced the highest enjoyment of a hospitable welcome.

The village of Clyro, undistinguished in itself, is buried beneath the Radnorshire range of hills, nor does the parsonage house, a low and indifferent structure, partake of a more advantageous situation; but a small temple in its upper garden commands most of the transcendent beauties of the vale of the Wye, in a happy, but not very elevated position. These appear in a much greater display from an adjacent hill in what is called the forest of Clyro, where the point of prospect is marked by a single tree. Towards Wales the mountains range themselves in a grand amphitheatre, with considerable intervals formed by the gaps through which the several vallies descend; the most conspicuous among these are the bold projections and indented sides of the Black mountain, the hill of Talgarth, and the Van, which, like a second Vesuvius, exalts its two volcanic summits, rising from its broad base with inconceivable grandeur. From this mountainous outline many insulated hills start forth into the plain, clothed with wood, and marked by villages or white buildings; most of these form little vallies of their own, whose tributary streams increase the waters of the Wye, proudly winding in various folds between its verdant and enamelled meads.—Towards England, a far different scene expands itself in the vast plain of Herefordshire, covered with orchards, and abounding in pastures and fertility, through which the Wye flows in placid beauty, and gaining in depth what it loses in rapidity, still preserves the original bold character it derives from its native mountains.—All the riches of Ceres and Pomona are here exposed to view, amidst woods, meadows, towns, and villages; fine hills crowned with plantations start up in every part of this happy plain, and on one of these the tower of Clifford church presents a distinguished object above the picturesque remains of its castle.—Neither is the distant boundary unequal to the expanse it comprehends; the Clay hills in Shropshire, and those of Malvern in Worcestershire, closing the whole with their bold outline; while those of Garnons, Foxley, and Dinmoor, terminating in the two conic hills called Robin Hood's butts, in the plain of Leominster, form the intermediate division. On the right, just in front of the golden vale, Mawbech hill projects into the plain with striking grandeur, crossed by the park-like groves of More-wood, which, descending from a nearer eminence, seem to close in with the Black mountain, and overhang the town and castle of the Hay, behind small intermediate vallies.

In the cheerful society of our friends at Clyro, and in the midst of such fine natural scenery, our limited time appeared to fly with a double portion of rapidity, and we unwillingly resumed our course of travel, returning to the Hay; close to which town we crossed the little brook which divides Brecknockshire from England. We now passed through a rich part of Herefordshire, abounding in hill and dale, and finely marked by the windings of the Wye, which we crossed by a plain bridge at Bredwardine, close beneath the Mawbech hill, and adjoining to Moccas court, the seat of Sir George Cornwall. The next ascent brought us to Mr. Cotterell's bold situation and ornamented grounds at Garnons; soon after which we entered the great level in which the ancient city of Hereford is situated on the banks of the Wye, surrounded with rich pastures and innumerable orchards.

This place has experienced great improvement in the course of the last ten years, and though it cannot boast of the trade of Gloucester, or the courtly polish of Worcester, it excels many of our distant cities in the width and neatness of its streets.

The cathedral has lately undergone a considerable repair in consequence of the fall of its rich western tower, and I have scarcely ever seen the modern unite so well with the ancient in a Gothic building.—Nearly adjoining to the Close is the pleasant public walk of the Castle-green, which, together with the Bishop's garden, commands the rich country, orchards, and hills, towards Ross, and the Wye with its old bridge.

Pursuing the Worcester road from Hereford through a pleasant country, we passed a fine seat of Mr. Foley at Stoke Edith; and as we approached the high spire of Ledbury, appearing to rise out of a tufted grove, we began to emerge from the flat we had so long traversed. A variety of rich scenery amidst woods, orchards, and steep hanging grounds, attended our long ascent to the summit of the Malvern hills, which undulating in a long waving ridge, and rising in high grassy points, formed a striking boundary to two very different countries.

Here the rich tract of Herefordshire appeared in full display, backed by the Radnorshire hills and the mountains of Brecknockshire, while on the opposite side the almost boundless plain of Evesham lost itself in the distant eminences of Warwickshire and the Cotswold hills, which, with their winding outline, comprehended all the vale of Gloucestershire.—The proud cities of Gloucester and Worcester, with their lofty cathedrals and numerous spires, stood forward in the plain; the Severn might here and there be faintly traced in the expanse below, chequered with countless villages, and the two towns of Upton and Tewkesbury with its abbey, appeared in front of the great projecting hill of Bredon.

A gradual descent brought us to a fine hanging level, yet far above the plain, and commanding all its objects, on which an excellent gravel road conducted us to the wells of Malvern, situated on a shelf about half way up the eastern side of the hill. Here we found a large public-house after the manner of those of Matlock, Buxton, and Harrowgate, and a great crowd of company, whom the beauty of the prospect, the purity of the air, and the celebrity of the water, had attracted to this pleasant spot.—The neighbouring villages of Great and Little Malvern, stand at each extremity of this charming terrace, the former of which abounds in inns and lodging-houses for such of the company as do not reside at the wells. Here also is a fine old church, in form almost a cathedral, and an ancient gateway, both of which originally belonged to the abbey of Malvern, of which they form nearly the sole remains.

From Great Malvern the descent was rapid into the plain, where, at the distance of about eight miles, we reached the new grand approach to Worcester, crossing the Severn by a magnificent stone bridge.—This flourishing city, though inferior to Gloucester in its trade, is greatly above it in the regularity of its buildings, and the beauty of its situation on a bank sloping to the Severn, which washes its walls with a stream less clear and rapid, but broader than the Wye. The High street extends nearly along the whole ridge, and ending in the Foregate street towards the north, presents an appearance of opulence in its shops and handsome houses, rarely to be seen at a distance from the capital. Hence has Worcester been long distinguished as the most polished city in this part of England, and many considerable families from the neighbouring counties, and from Wales, have made it their winter residence. Neither is its trade unworthy of mention, the Severn being navigable from Shrewsbury, and aided by numerous canals, conveying all the traffic of Colebrook dale, Birmingham, and its vicinage; within its walls also is established a justly celebrated china manufactory.—The remains of its castle, except a high mount, are not large; but the noble

noble structure of its cathedral exalts itself far above the numerous churches of this city. Less exquisite in its ornaments than that of Gloucester, its great characteristic excellence consists in its height, space, and the lightness of its architecture, to which the lofty pinnacles rising from every termination of the building, as well as from the tower, contribute not a little; neither should the peculiar neatness which prevails within, be disregarded.

Worcester, like Gloucester, was a great Roman station, and may equally be called a frontier city of England towards South Wales; here therefore the tour of that part of the principality should naturally terminate, and from hence, through some of the intermediate English counties, I mean to commence my description of North Wales.

TOUR OF NORTH WALES.

CHAP. I. — *Commencement of the Tour of North Wales from Worcester.*—Crome.—Tewkesbury.—Fine Views from Toddington Park and Bredon Hill.—Evesham.—Alcester.—Stratford on Avon.—Warwick and its Castle.—Guy's Cliff.—Kenilworth Castle.—Coventry.—Meriden.—Packington Hall and Church.—Birmingham.—Hailes Owen.—The Leasowes.—Hagley.—Envill.—Bridgnorth.—Striking Scenery of Apley Terrace.—Colebrook Dale, and the iron Bridge.—Buildwas Abbey.—Singular Form of, and great Prospect from the Wrekin Hill.—Grand Approach to Shrewsbury.

THE sweep of country between Worcester and the two great avenues to North Wales, through Shrewsbury and Chester, comprehends a most interesting part of England, abounding in flourishing manufactures, fine seats, and striking points of view. To pursue that line of connection, therefore, does not seem foreign to the design of these travels, nor does the approach to the mountainous display of North Wales lose its effect after the contrast exhibited by the rich plains and ornamented seats of Warwickshire, Staffordshire, and Shropshire.

Deep in the vale of Evesham, and nearly opposite to Malvern, we found Crome, the elegant seat of the Earl of Coventry.—Nature has contributed little to its beauties, but the powers of art, and the transcendent skill of Brown, have been blest with uncommon success. Wood, water, and ornamented buildings, are here dispersed with great taste and profusion, and even a semblance of hill and dale is produced, by labour and judicious design, out of an almost undistinguished level.—Our road from thence led us through the pleasant village of Severn Stoke, on the banks of the Severn, with abundance of fine views, till we crossed the Warwickshire Avon near its conflux with that river, and descended to the old town of Tewkesbury, now only observable for the stately fabric of its abbey church.

A vale equally rich, but less extensive than that of Evesham, stretches up from Tewkesbury to the Cotteswold hills; near the upper end of which lies the fine park of Lord Tracy, at some distance from his old collegiate house, and the adjacent village. This beautiful tract of ground covers several well-planted hills, gently rising from the plain, and commands a full view of all its striking boundaries, from the distant ridge of

of Malvern to the nearer amphitheatre of the Cotteswold range, in whose indented hollows the groves of Stanway and Corfcombe appear finely suspended, and beneath which the Gothic church and town of Winchcombe exhibit conspicuous objects. Hailes abbey also, founded by Richard, the second son of King John, for Cistercian monks, and Sudely castle, built by Ralph de Boteler, high treasurer of England in the reign of Henry VI. but afterwards given to the Chandos family, occupy in view fine positions beneath the hills.

The great mass of Bredon hill here divides this vale from that of Evesham, and the prospect from its summit is wonderfully extensive, including the two cities of Gloucester and Worcester, with numberless towns and villages. Having climbed this hill by a very bad road, a precipitate descent brought us to the old town of Evesham, buried in its rich vale, on the banks of the Avon, over which it has a long stone bridge. Some inconsiderable remains of its abbey are yet extant, but we chiefly admired a high Gothic tower over an arch of exquisite workmanship, detached from its church and all other buildings.

Here we left this great level, which extended in sight to Broadway at the foot of the Cotteswold hills, and as we advanced into Warwickshire, passed by Ragley, a noble seat of the marquis of Hertford, on a high eminence above the little town of Alcester. A more open country succeeded, and the inequalities of the Ilmington and Meon hills formed a fine boundary in front, as we came in sight of the spire of Stratford on Avon, a town well known for having given birth to our great dramatic poet. A considerable air of antiquity prevails in this place, and most of the oldest houses are built of timber and plaster, after the manner of many towns in Shropshire and Cheshire, but the central streets have undergone much modern improvement. Every thing here seems devoted to perpetuate the memory of the bard; his picture is suspended opposite to that of his great supporter Garrick in the town hall; his tomb also, like that of Medina's prophet, attracts a train of pilgrims scarcely inferior in devotion; and the real, or pretended, remains of his mulberry-tree are dispersed with a fervour, almost equal to that which attends the reliques of popery. The church of Stratford is a considerable Gothic structure, and in its chancel is the bust of Shakespeare, which has lately by some innovating spirit been absurdly covered with a white plaster, disfiguring those features which were far more conspicuous in their uncouth colouring. The town extends from the church in several parallel streets on the north bank of the Avon, to the long bridge which connects it with the opposite shore.

We deviated a little from the direct road to visit the old seat of Mr. Lucy at Charlton, in the park of whose ancestor Shakespeare is said to have stolen the deer of famous memory. Few places have suffered so little alteration in the course of so many years, and the Gothic points of the house, with its stately avenues, yet uninjured and un-clumped by art, keep up the interest of the anecdote, be it true or fabulous, and bring back our fancy to the golden days of queen Elizabeth.—A well wooded and cultivated country, abounding in gentle eminences, now encompassed us, till the lofty tower of Warwick church, and the majestic bastions of its castle, appeared high above the houses of the town, proudly covering the summit of a considerable hill.

Independent of its commanding situation, Warwick may boast an air of neatness and ornament superior to most country towns; great part of which, perhaps, it owes to a fire, by which most of the old houses were destroyed early in this century. Its principal street is perfectly straight and uniform, with a chapel over a gateway at each extremity,

mity, as the hill descends: the town and county halls are elegant modern buildings, and the new gaol is a grand, though heavy structure. St. Mary's church is a stately edifice rising from the highest ground in the centre of the town, but its tower, though lofty and full of ornament, does not correctly agree with the lighter Gothic of the aisle and chapel, which also differ from each other; in the latter is a fine monument of Nevil earl of Warwick. The environs of this place are remarkably pleasant from the views commanded on every side over a cheerful country; and the walk belonging to the priory, which is now a handsome seat of the Wise family forms an agreeable promenade to the town.

Rather below the high street, towards the south-east, encompassed by a chain of embattled walls and lofty bastions, the great baronial castle of Warwick exalts its mighty towers with a most imposing air of grandeur, and, incorporated with the steep cliff which forms its foundation, impends over the channel of the placid Avon. This grand seat of the Earls of Warwick has undergone much improvement in the course of the last century, but principally since the succession of its present noble owner, who by building a fine stone bridge of one arch over the Avon, and turning the public road towards it, has released his majestic pile from the confinement of modern walls and an irregular street of the town, which adjoined to them. The present approach, the whole of which is not yet finished, opens from the north end of the high street across a new-created lawn to the great gateway, through which a long chain of arches, guarded by a double portcullis, leads by a slight ascent to the central court of the castle. Several high towers, one of which is attributed to Guy, encompass this noble area, and, uniting with the well planted mount which formed the keep, connect the decayed with the inhabited parts of the castle. The suite of apartments, and particularly the hall, are splendid; to which several new rooms have been added in a taste not incongruous with the ancient building; neither are they deficient in paintings and other well disposed ornaments, but the delightful prospect they command is by far the most striking feature of the place. Beneath, the cliff on which the castle is founded, descends abruptly to the Avon, which flowing through the numerous arches of an old Gothic bridge, and supplying the mill connected with the castle, winds charmingly through the lawns of the park and garden, passing beneath a second high Rialto bridge of one arch near their extremity. Some few venerable groves, aided by a great variety of rising plantations, adorn the enlarged expanse of the park, beyond which a cheerful, populous, and well wooded country extends in sight to the boundaries of Edge hill towards Oxfordshire, and the Ilmington hills towards Gloucestershire.

About a mile from Warwick, on the Coventry road, we found the curious mansion of Guy's cliff, a seat of the Greathead family. This house also is incorporated with a sandy cliff impending over the Avon, and the stalls of the stable are hewn out of the rock in a very remarkable manner.—In the chapel is a gigantic statue of Guy Earl of Warwick, the legendary champion of this country, and in the garden are shewn his well and cave which he is supposed to have made his hermitage when he retired from life.—These memorials of a hero, whether real or fabulous, fail not to excite an enthusiastic respect for his memory in the country, nor are the huge remnants of his armour preserved at the castle together with his enormous porridge pot and the rib of the dun cow, contemplated without a degree of admiration nearly approaching to awe.

An admirable road conducted us from Guy's cliff to Kenelworth, where we viewed the rich remains of its once princely castle, the more ancient parts of which are in tolerable

lerable preservation, while the splendid additions of Lord Leicester have submitted to an earlier decay. A highly picturesque ruin, intermixed with wood and overgrown with ivy, now alone marks the spot where the favourite of Elizabeth expended all the treasures of her bounty, and entertained his mistress with a display of magnificence which few kings could emulate.—Stoneleigh abbey, a fine seat of the Leigh family, lay on the right, beyond which the groves of Baggington clothed a high eminence, where the vale, expanding and opening towards the entrance of Leicestershire, exhibiting the populous city and three high spires of Coventry rising out of its bosom. A bare heath lately covered this tract of country, but verdant inclosures have since entirely occupied the space; over which, through regular plantations and a finely formed avenue, we approached the walls of Coventry. This city has few objects except its churches to boast of, and even the architecture of these is much injured by the crumbling nature of the red stone with which they are constructed. The streets of Coventry are almost uniformly narrow and inconvenient; the passage through the city is also in general much crowded and obstructed, while that appearance of dirt and population exists throughout which marks many of our manufacturing towns. The ludicrous figure of Peeping Tom hangs still suspended from a window in the principal street, but the venerable old gates have been absurdly destroyed, and the rich Gothic cross of Coventry, matchless in its architecture, has shared the same fate.

We left this disagreeable place without regret, and soon arrived at the hospitable mansion of Mr. Digby, near the pleasant village of Meriden, in the grounds of which much taste and expence have been bestowed by their present worthy owner with considerable success.—Packington hall, the great seat of Lord Aylesford, is nearly adjoining, in whose park we were shewn a church of a very singular construction, lately built by his lordship. Its disposition within is not less remarkable, and though we acknowledged fully the principle, that all station and human pre-eminence were useless, if not improper, in the house of God, yet did it seem a little dangerous suddenly to admit a system of studied equality, the real meaning and motions of which might, in this age, be so easily mistaken or misrepresented. Lord Aylesford has been successful in the structure and position of his house, the ornamental parts of his grounds, and above all, in the formation of a noble sheet of water by which it is approached, except that its head is rather too apparent.

The country now grew flat and less distinguished by distant objects, but abundance of smoke issuing from the surrounding collieries, and spruce villas starting up on every side, indicated our approach to the great trading town of Birmingham. That immense capital of the iron manufactures which are spread over this part of the three counties of Stafford, Warwick, and Worcester, exalts its sooty towers and spires amidst incessant volumes of smoke, and the perpetual din of innumerable forges. An air of successful opulence prevails throughout this crowded place, which, in spite of some considerable modern improvements, and the addition of a splendid theatre with several superb streets, still bears but a disagreeable aspect. Its works, however, are well worthy of a traveller's observation, and those of Mr. Clay and Mr. Bolton, are extensive and curious, the latter forming a separate town at Soho, in the vicinage of Birmingham.

Soon after we emerged from the dark atmosphere of Birmingham, we found ourselves translated into a pleasanter and more varied country, from one of the boundaries of which we descended into the richly ornamented plain which unites the northern

border

border of Worcestershire with Staffordshire and part of Shropshire. The prospect was both delightful and extensive, stretching out to the distant ridges of the Clay hills and those of Malvern, while in the nearer landscape the picturesque spire of Hailes Owen rose in taper beauty from the vale below, and the high points of the Clent hills, immediately on our left, appeared clad with tufted groves and rich patches of wood. In a romantic dell, formed beneath their hollows, and ascending to the summit of the eminence on which we stood awhile to enjoy this view, the delightful gardens of the Leasowes invited the charmed traveller to admire the taste with which Shenstone had decorated them; and still further, all the rich plantations and ornamented buildings of Hagley burst upon the sight with great force and beauty. A minute description of places, so well known and so much admired, must be tedious and unnecessary; suffice it, therefore, to say, that (except the single article of water, which in both these places is formal and depending on temporary supplies) all that classic taste, elegant ornament, and a judicious disposition of objects can effect, is there combined with the transcendent charms with which nature has decorated those happy spots.

From Hagley we soon entered Staffordshire, and passing through the old town of Stourbridge, famous for its glass manufacture, crossed several wild heaths by a very bad road to reach Envill, the fine seat of Lord Stamford. The grounds here are extensive, and the frequent intervention of woods forms an agreeable contrast to a country which mostly abounds in heath. A moss-grown path, gently winding through these groves, and occasionally relieved by several well fancied seats, leads to a high terrace communicating with some extensive sheep-walks, but the water (as at Hagley and the Leasowes) is unequal to the place, consisting of a few canals less formal than the former, and various cascades, which, though not unattended with some striking effect, are yet only fed by temporary and artificial supplies. The terrace and the upper sheep grounds command a view both wonderfully extensive and singular, stretching in a wide circle to the Clent Cley, and Malvern Hills, with the Wrekin in Shropshire; before the former of which the rich groves of Hagley and the cultivated district adjoining to Worcestershire, appear to great advantage across the wild heaths of Staffordshire. The house is a large pile, and has been greatly added to in modern times; its situation, though low, is pleasing from the neatness of the shrubberies that surround it, and the variety of fine trees feathering to the ground on every side. Both Hagley and Envill have pleasant rural inns near their parks, and when first I visited the latter, it was kept by a sensible veteran, who rejoiced in his tranquil retirement "under the shadow of a worthy nobleman."

A woody country, terminating in the bare heath called the Moss of Bridgnorth, brought us to that curious town in Shropshire, most singularly situated on a high rock above the Severn, from which a street incredibly steep and narrow descends to the lower town, and its long Gothic bridge over the river. To avoid this dangerous declivity a new road is formed round the Cliff with great expence and labour, which taking a considerable compass enters the upper town at the south gate of the principal street, which is wide and well-formed, with a spacious market place in the centre. On the summit of the hill stood the ancient castle of Bridgnorth, several fragments of which still remain, and among them is a large oblong leaning tower, many feet out of the perpendicular. Closely adjoining to these is a fine new church, rather too like a theatre in its structure and decoration, and round the whole a pleasant public walk is carried, part of which is suspended on the Cliff, from whence the views of the two towns, the river, the bridge, and the surrounding country, are delightfully romantic. A very indifferent sandy road, intermixed with rock, conveyed us to Mr. Whitmore's terrace

at Apley park, so much admired, and so well described by the late Lord Lyttelton. It consists of a ridge of wood above a mile in length, waving over several unequal summits, below which many rugged piles of rocks, peep out amidst the mass of trees which feather down to the banks of the river. Its distant prospect is extensive, comprehending the Clent, Malvern, and Cley hills, with the Wrekin, beyond which some of the Welch mountains appear at a great distance. But the nearer view is most enchanting, which pursues the proud stream of the Severn, rolling between the boldest rocks on one side, and the richest meadows on the other, to the romantic town and bridge of Bidgnorth, while another reach of the same great river, in a different point of view, encompasses the groves of the park of Apley, and the knoll on which its venerable pile is placed. The terrace, with its profuse clothing of wood and rock, impends perpendicularly over the point in which these two fine reaches meet, and commands the several beauties of each in high perfection.

Traversing from hence the high grounds near Shiffnall, we made a precipitate descent to the romantic scene of Colebrooke Dale, where the river, winding between a variety of high wooded hills, opposite to the forges of Broseley, is crossed by a bridge of one arch, 100 feet in length, and formed entirely of cast iron, with strong stone abutments, which presents at once a striking effect in landscape, and a stupendous specimen of the powers of mechanism. Another branch of the Dale is equally curious for its iron works and forges, from the extremity of which a winding walk, cut through one of the woods with which the hills are covered, overlooking the whole country, and ornamented with several neat temples, led us back to our inn at the bridge foot. By day, the busy scene in its neighbourhood, and the vast quantity of craft with which the river is filled, add not a little to the interest of the view; while by night the numerous fires arising from the works or the opposite hills, and along the several channels of the two vallies, aided by the clangour of forges in every direction, affect the mind of one unpractised in these scenes with an indescribable sensation of wonder, and transport in fancy the classic observer to the work-shop of Vulcan, or an epitome of the infernal regions.

Our road now pursued the valley on the bank of the Severn, till we crossed it to see the ruin of Buildwas abbey, a small, but regular Gothic pile. We then surmounted a high ridge, and as we passed an elegant bridge built over the little river Torne by Lord Berwick near his fine seat, the country expanded itself into the great vale of Shropshire, while close above us on the right, the Wrekin lifted its head high over the neighbouring summits. This singular hill, smooth and nearly uniform in its apparently elliptic figure, rises abruptly in the midst of a vast plain, of which it forms the principal feature and ornament. Strongly contrasted with the distant and opposite mountains of North Wales, a soft grassy verdure prevails to its very summit, intermixed with a light clothing of fern, and rich patches of wood are pleasantly scattered about its hollows and its base, with just rock enough to vary its decoration, without giving it a mountainous character. It may justly range among the first order of hills, and the prospect it commands is wonderfully extensive, comprehending the whole of Shropshire, with great part of the neighbouring counties, in a vast circle, bounded by the Cley, Malvern, and Clent hills, on the one side, and those of Staffordshire and Derbyshire, with the forest of Delamere in Cheshire, on the other; while in front the Denbighshire Berouin extends its long range across the plain, terminating in the bolder mountains of Montgomeryshire, and the nearer ridge of rocky hills about Church Stretton in Shropshire.—We crossed the Severn by a plain stone bridge about four miles before we reached Shrewsbury, and repassed it again by one much more magnificent

ficent to enter that place, whose situation is singularly beautiful on a high peninsular hill, which the Severn almost encompasses with a bold sweep of more than three miles.

CHAP. II.—*Shrewsbury.—Beauty and fine Disposition of the grounds at Hawkestone. Striking Effect of its Grotto, and splendid View from its Terrace.—Pleasant Inn of Hawkestone.—Oswestry.—Entrance of North Wales.—Chirk Castle.—Wynnestay.—Erthig.—Wrexham.—Gresford.—Antiquity, Opulence and Elegance of Chester.—Mold.—Flint.—View of the Estuary of the Dee—Holywell and its Manufactures.—St. Wynefred's Well and Chapel.—Basingwork Abbey.—Wat's Dyke and Offa's Dyke.—Great View from the Hill south of Holywell.—Beauty of the Vale of Clwydd.—Denbigh, and its adjacent Linen Works.—City and Cathedral of St. Asaph.*

SHREWSBURY being the great frontier town of England towards North Wales, and the capital of a flourishing county, is a place of great antiquity, and has from a very early period of history been a town of considerable consequence. Two of its churches are decorated with handsome spires, and the modern rotunda of St. Chad is highly ornamented, but, as well as the new church of Bridgnorth, seems rather more like a theatre than a place of worship. Two splendid hospitals crown the opposite steep bank of the Severn; the county hall is an elegant modern structure, and the Quarry-walk, surrounding and crossing a field sloping to the river, forms a delightful and well-shaded promenade.—These advantages, with the extreme beauty of its situation, have induced many families of North Wales and the neighbouring counties to make Shrewsbury their winter residence, and their houses, ranged in the exterior circle of the town towards the country, add much on every side to its appearance. Yet must it be confessed that the interior of this place is woefully deficient in convenience and accommodation, the pavement execrable, and the buildings for the most part indifferent. The castle, when first I saw it, was in a very decayed state, but it has since been repaired and modernized with success; the view from its mount is extremely beautiful, commanding the whole town, and the great circle of the Severn. The Welch bridge also was a curious structure, with a high tower over its gateway, on which was placed the statue of Llewellyn prince of Wales; the passage being narrow and inconvenient, this bridge has been lately rebuilt, and a very handsome one of stone now supplies its place, forming the principal avenue to Shrewsbury from North Wales.

Hawkestone, the justly admired seat of Sir Richard Hill, made us deviate from the usual approach to North Wales, and follow the old Chester road, a sandy and ill-formed turnpike, leading through several homely villages, remarkable for their length and the roughness of their paving. Turning to the right from this road, ten miles from Shrewsbury, we passed through a cleft curiously cut in the sandy rock which prevails throughout all this country, and came suddenly in sight of the paradise Sir Richard Hill has formed in the midst of a waste, covered by almost impervious tracts of sand.—The taste with which this place is embellished is of a very singular kind, and its features are so different from any other, that it is almost impossible for description to do them justice. Rich verdant lawns extend themselves through the whole of this charming territory, encircling high insulated hills, on which the red rock appears finely intermixed with that profusion of timber which clothes them from their summits to their bases.—On one of these the fragments of a castle display themselves, and in

ascending another, the stranger is conducted through a dark subterraneous passage of great length, into a spacious cavern, highly arched, and illuminated with painted glass of various colours. This may indisputably be called the first grotto in the kingdom, nor is the effect lessened when the opening of the folding-doors introduces the grand burst of day-light, and astonishes the sight with a most enchanting landscape, comprehending most parts of the place and its environs, with the distant country, from a precipitous height, encompassed by broken pillars of the rock, and the arches of this extraordinary building. The descent is curiously managed on the perpendicular side of the Cliff by flights of steps, which at length re-conducted us to the path we had quitted to visit this extraordinary cavern. Pursuing the course of the walks by another succession of steps cut in the friable rock, we wound through the thickest part of the woods which form the boundary of the place, and ascended to the high terrace, which extends in a bold curve along the summit of the ridge for more than three miles.—Its abundant shade and verdure render this walk delightful, and at unequal distances, near seats judiciously placed, openings in the woods discover prospects hardly to be equalled in any part of England for extent or their peculiar features.—On a high elevation at the back of the terrace, a magnificent column is raised, through which a spiral stair-case leads to a gallery round its summit, commanding a most amazing expanse of country; most of Shropshire lies spread beneath it, and the spires of Shrewsbury appear to rise out of the centre of the plain, bounded on one side by the Cley and Wrekin hills, with those of Brythen near Montgomery, and the long bold range of the Berouin in Denbighshire, through whose frequent apertures some of the vallies and interior mountains of North Wales may be traced. On the opposite side, the heathy hills of Staffordshire near Newcastle, project before the higher eminences of the Peak of Derbyshire, which terminate abruptly in the vast plains of Cheshire and Lancashire, where the bare points of Delamere forest and the rock of Beeston castle appear like islands in an unbounded ocean. Chester and Liverpool, with their two great æstuaries of the Dee and the Mersey, are not here visible from their distance, and the flatness of the intervening level; but the eye, overlooking them, rests on some points near Wigan and Ormskirk in Lancashire, and the high grounds of Flintshire, which descend to the Dee.—Neither is the near ground less worthy of observation, where the sight, after traversing the vast expanse of the distant prospects, reposes with pleasure on the woods, lawns, and rocks of the park and garden, together with the ornamented farms and sweetly cultivated grounds which surround them, and separate them from the adjoining heaths. Immediately beneath the north end of the terrace, under a fine hanging grove of oaks, stands the mansion of the place, a large brick building, with spacious wings, in the grand, but rather heavy taste of architecture which prevailed throughout the kingdom about the beginning of this century. The park extends far in front, being well kept, planted, and divided by a considerable sheet of water; but the more striking features of the place in its groves, its rocks, and its happy varieties of ground, are not visible on this side, which sinks rather too uniformly into the great level.—From the village at the entrance of the place they appear in the highest perfection, and the village in return, adorned with a neat modern church in the Gothic taste, and an admirable inn (equal in point of situation and structure to many gentlemen's seats), adds greatly to the beauty of the walks.—Few country inns have such advantages, and the liberal manner in which Sir Richard Hill's place is open to all strangers, adds much to the pleasure they experience in viewing it. The whole, being nearly the creation of the present owner, does ample credit to his taste;
nor

nor have some few eccentricities in his buildings, his seats, and his inscriptions, an unpleasing air of singularity. If the strictness of a too critic eye could object to them, the censure must soon be absorbed in applause, where the mind is allowed to contemplate the rare instance of a worthy and opulent country gentleman employing his abundance in the embellishment of his place, and constantly contributing to the support and industry of numbers in his neighbourhood.

After bestowing two days on this delightful spot, we left it with regret, and traversing the plain by Wem, fell into the great road near Oswestry, a handsome market town, on a high situation under the Berouin, above which are the small remains of the castle. Soon afterwards we crossed the little river Carriac in a deep glen, through which it issues from the mountains; and there we first entered the county of Denbigh, in that part of the principality which bears the name of North Wales.

Chirk Castle, the noble seat of Mr. Middleton, here attracted our notice, and the ascent by which we reached that lofty summit, on which it towered over the groves of oaks surrounding it, was truly grand, winding between open groves, through which frequent peeps of the distant country were seen to great advantage. This castle was founded on the site of one more ancient by Mortimer, son of Roger, baron of Wigmore, in the time of Edward I. and after belonging to a variety of owners, came to the Middletons in 1614. It is of a square form, with five heavy round towers and a lofty gateway; within, it contains a range of spacious apartments; but they lose very much of their effect by the windows being turned mostly to the inner court, instead of opening to the vast prospects which the high situation of the castle commands. The plantations are extensive, covering the steep side of the Berouin, ascending through which by a variety of fine ridings, we had alternate views of the romantic glen of Carriac on one side, and the open country on the other. From the summit a more striking scene presented itself: towards England, the plain we had passed through (including the Wrekin and Cley hills, and the spires of Shrewsbury, with Beeston castle, and the hills bounding the Vale Royal of Cheshire) lay spread below us; while on the side of Wales, innumerable mountains, piled on each other, encompassed the beautiful vale of Llangollen; on the summit of one of which the ruins of Dinas-Braam castle soared to the clouds, while the Dee rolled in a broad and rapid torrent through the valley.

Returning from this eminence, which commands a view over 17 counties, to the house, we descended through the park to two elegant lodges, which communicate with the great road just where it divides into two branches; one of which descends by a fine hanging shelf into the vale of Llangollen, and the other forms the direct road by Wrexham to Chester. A rapid descent on the latter brought us to a bridge over the Dee in a deep hollow; and by an opposite steep we approached the great seat of Wynne-Stay, the ancient demesne of Sir Watkin Williams Wynne, and his ancestors.

—The park and grounds here are well laid out, and the prospect towards Chirk castle, and the great hills enclosing Llangollen is striking; but the place, as well as the house, was, even when I last saw it, in an unfinished state, and, upon the whole, rather disappointed me. The romantic scenery of the Dee and its valley, at a spot called Nant-y-bell, at the extremity of the park, is much to be admired; but it is rather too distant from the place, and its access is not made so easy as it should be.—The Bellan lake, in the park, is a spacious sheet of water amidst large growing plantations, which in time will be highly ornamental. A repast, which the hospitality of Wynne-Stay provided for us, was doubly welcome, as the neighbouring town of Rhuabon was occupied by its wake; where, as we passed afterwards, we were much enter-

entertained with the humors of a Welch play, performed on an open stage.—Though the language was unintelligible, and the plot not to be developed, the strange gestures of the actors, and the gaping attention of the multitude, could not fail to excite in us that interest which novelty inspires. Erthig, the elegant seat of Mr. Yorke, lay in our way to Wrexham; nor could we enough admire the beauty of its plantations, and the taste with which they are embellished throughout. They cover an oblong hill, sloping down to two valleys pleasantly watered, between which are vestiges of some small but strong entrenchments, said to have been a Roman fort.—Wrexham is a large, dirty, and ill-paved town, but the rich tower of its church, on which is the date of 1506, is a complete specimen of the ornamented Gothic which prevailed in the reign of Henry VII.—The village of Grefsford also presented another handsome church, as we passed along a fine terrace at the foot of the Berouin, commanding the great plains of Shropshire and Cheshire in high perfection, and entering the latter county from Denbighshire, approached the venerable walls and towers of Chester, crossing its long old bridge over the Dee.

This respectable city has long been visited and admired for the singularity of its architecture, and the antique appearance of its buildings, most of which in the four cross streets are of timber, with galleries called "The Rows," in the second story, which being ascended by open stair-cases, form the public foot-paths. The cathedral and chapter-house are curious Gothic buildings, and the walk suspended on the walls which surround the city, terminating in the castle, forms a most extraordinary and interesting promenade. The commerce arising from a great navigable river, and the vicinage of Manchester, with its surrounding manufactures, have contributed much to enrich Chester, which has long been distinguished as the residence of several opulent families from Ireland, North Wales, and the neighbouring counties. Hence have good modern houses started up in all the interior of the circle within the walls, and hence has Chester been celebrated for the politeness of its inhabitants, the agreeable state of its society, and the elegance of its amusements. This being the frontier city of England towards North Wales and Ireland, has long been the principal approach to the former, and the great thoroughfare to the latter country; the new Irish road however, which has of late years been formed by Shrewsbury and Llangollen, has in some degree superseded it, being rather nearer, and missing a bad ferry over the Conway.

Returning over the bridge of Chester, we now took our leave of the English territory, and re-entered North Wales as we passed the confine of Flintshire.—This little county exhibits great variety of ground distributed in marshes, mountains, and a small cultivated district; it also contains two county towns, and a flourishing place of manufacture.—Mold, the modern seat of the grand session, lies in a hollow surrounded by some rude hills on the left of the great road; and Flint, the ancient, but deserted, capital of the county, is buried on the right in a marsh near the Dee. Both of these are inconsiderable places, and the latter, being almost uninhabited from its unhealthy situation, is distinguishable only by a great hospital and the remains of its castle.—The large town of Holywell, from its neighbouring manufactures and its easy access to the sea, has swelled into the great mart of this country, and as we approached it, the view of the æstuary of the Dee opened grandly on the right about Northope, extending behind us to Chester, while the opposite towns of Flint and Park-gate marked the centre of the channel.—The town of Holywell is spacious, but irregular, and its houses are tinged with the smook arising from its various works. Most of these are carried on in a deep hollow beneath the town, where the little stream
flowing

flowing from the celebrated well of St. Wynfred rushes with incredible impetuosity through a narrow valley between two well-wooded hills to the sea, and in the course of a mile turns an incredible number of cotton, brass, and copper mills. The well itself is a great curiosity, being said to throw up above twenty-one tuns of water in a minute, but its medicinal properties seem to be a little apocryphal; at least, they are certainly not so much in request at present as they were when the crutches, now hanging suspended there, were first so consecrated. A rich arched cloister, with a roof finely carved, and supported by light Gothic pillars, is raised over the well, which, together with the chapel above it, now converted into a school, was founded by the Stanley family, and enriched by the donations of Margaret Countess of Richmond, the mother of Henry VII.

Beneath the wood towards the coast, we visited the small remains of Basingwork abbey once the seat of solitude and devotion; but the genius of the place had long left the melancholy relics of its ancient grandeur to languish in obscurity before the jarring sound of the neighbouring manufactures came to interrupt their oraisons. This abbey of Cistercians was founded in 1131 by Randall, the second earl of Chester, or by Henry II., and is situated just at the extremity of the Saxon dyke or fofs, called Wat's Dyke, which takes its course through Wynnestay park, Erthig, and in a line near Wrexham, Mold, and Holywell, to this place. The other great Saxon boundary of Offa's Dyke, with which it is frequently confounded, often intersects it, and, according to Mr. Pennant, it may be traced from the banks of the Wye through the counties of Hereford, Radnor, and Montgomery, to the hills above Chirk castle, from whence it can be pursued to Wrexham, and a spot near Mold, beyond which no further vestiges are found.—A long and amazingly steep hill from the town, gave us a wonderful prospect towards the coast, where the great channels of the Dee and Mersey divide the counties of Flint, Lancaster, and Chester. The two towns of Chester and Liverpool were distinctly visible, and the eye was lost in surveying the boundless plains reaching to the distant hills of Yorkshire and Derbyshire. On the contrary side a far different view presented itself; all was wild and desolate, hill succeeded hill in irregular confusion, till the vast pile of the Caernarvonshire mountains closed the scene, above which the lofty summits of Snowdon towered with majestic pre-eminence.

After traversing a lonely heath we descended through a cleft in the hills to the fertile vale of Clwydd, which extends northward from the termination of the Berouin near Llangollen, by Ruthyn and Denbigh, to the sea beyond St. Asaph. No landscape can be painted more pleasing than that which this charming tract of ground presents, the breadth of which is about three miles, and the length near thirty; through nearly the whole of which the two little rivers of the Clwydd and the Elwy run parallel to each other. Thick wood, surrounding an infinite variety of rich enclosures, and interspersed with many neat farm-houses and gentlemen's seats, are backed by the waving line of an unequal ridge of moderate mountains, whose rugged points separate this blooming garden from the dreary wastes which encompass it. Pleasant villages abound in this delightful territory, and its three towns stand on fine positions about the distance of six miles from each other. Not very far from that high range of hills which, rising above Vale-Crucis abbey, separate the vales Clwydd and Llangollen, Ruthyn stands delightfully situated on an eminence sloping to the river; on the west side of the vale, towards its centre, the great castle of Denbigh spreads its broken walls and bastions over a lofty mount, from whence the town descends in one long street to the level of the rivers; while the little city of St. Asaph occupies

occupies a third eminence just before the point, where the hills receding, and the level expanding, terminate in a marsh near the sea.—Denbigh has, from its situation, been thought like to Edinburgh; but though some slight traces of resemblance might justify the comparison, it comes not near to the proud capital of Scotland, either in the boldness of its position, the ancient or modern splendour of its buildings, or the grandeur of its surrounding objects. Denbigh castle is altogether a ruin, of which scarcely enough remains entire to denote its architecture, except one Gothic gateway, over which is the statue of its founder Henry Lacy Earl of Lincoln, on whom Edward I. bestowed it. Within the walls stands the present parish church, an insignificant modern structure; and adjacent are the ruins of a much larger church, began under the auspices of Queen Elizabeth's favourite, Dudley Earl of Leicester, at that time the owner of this castle, but it was either never finished, or has fallen into decay with the other buildings. Near Denbigh, on my first visit to this country, I went to see the bleaching grounds and linen mills, then lately transplanted from Ireland, and formed near the seat of the Honourable Mr. Fitzmaurice. The mechanism of these mills is very curious, and the buildings both extensive and elegant; but the trade did not seem to meet sufficient encouragement to repay so extensive a projector. —We passed and re-crossed the river Elwy by two handsome bridges, to reach the city of St. Asaph, which is little more considerable than a village in its extent; its fine Gothic cathedral has been of late greatly improved in its internal decoration, and the palace has been rebuilt by the present bishop, which being situated above the town, fronting the hills towards Holywell, commands a pleasant view. I should imagine the situation of this place and Abergelè, which we next came to, must be rather unhealthy, as a large marsh extends from the coast to the walls of both towns, at the extremity of which we could discern the towers of Rhuddland castle, which a bad evening prevented our approaching.

CHAP. III.—*Striking View of Conway Castle and Town.—Fine Ride on the Denbighshire Bank of the Conway, to Llanrwst.—Falls of the Conway and Machno.—Pont-i-pair.—Rhaidri-wennel.—Gwedir.—Caernarvonshire Bank of the Conway.—Town and Castle of Conway.—Pass of Penmanmawr.—View of Beaumaries from Aboi.—Bangor and its Cathedral.—Entrance of Anglesea.—Beaumaries.—Baron Hill.—Gwyndu.—Holyhead Harbour and Headland.—The Paris Mountain, its Mines, its Lodges of Paris and Mona, its Town and Port of Amlwch.—Bangor Ferry.—The Menai Straits, and the Coast of Caernarvonshire.—Beautiful Approach to Caernarvon.—Castle of Caernarvon.—Remains of Segontium.—Excursion through Part of the extreme Horn of Caernarvonshire, and great Display of the Bay of Cardigan from Pwllhelli, Crickheith, and Penmorva.*

HAVING left the vale of Clwydd, our road now lay principally over the hills, with a fine view of the sea and some projecting rocks on the right, till we wound round the mountain of Penmanrofs, when the magnificent ruin of Conway castle and the embattled walls of its town, on the opposite bank of its great river, burst upon our view, projecting before a high ridge of wood, and nobly backed by the vast mountains of Caernarvonshire. Instead of crossing the ferry, we proceeded twelve miles southward on the Denbighshire bank of the river to Llanrwst; and a more beautiful scene than the whole ride displayed cannot be formed by the most luxuriant imagination.—The river accompanied us all the way, and its channel, growing gradually narrower as it receded from the sea, gave room to a range of rich enamelled meadows on each side, which it divided by its incessant windings. The road led us on a
terrace

terrace above its banks, under a ridge of high hills fringed with wood and interspersed with rocks, while the vast irregular chain of the Caernarvon mountains extended along the opposite shore. The clouds perpetually breaking on their unequal summits, and their prodigious cliffs descending towards the river, down the sides of which several great cataracts forced their way with unparalleled rapidity, exhibited the sublimity of uncultivated nature in its most majestic form. Towards the upper end of this vale, the little town of Llanrwst is pleasantly situated, principally to be noted for its bridge, a bold structure of three arches, the central one of which is sixty feet wide, and does honour to the design of Inigo Jones, to whom it is attributed.

In an excursion from hence we proceeded further up the vale, till the hills closing round encircled it, except on the left, where the Conway entered through a narrow aperture, foaming from its neighbouring fall near its junction with the Machno. Turning to the right, we followed the course of the river Llugwy, and soon came to a spot where it dashes with great rapidity over a ledge of broken rocks, on the craggy points of which the five arches of an extraordinary bridge, called the Pont-i-pair, are founded. We then penetrated into the recesses of that pile of mountains which forms the base of Snowdon, whose abrupt sides and fantastic heads rose in all directions behind each other in the wildest disorder, while the river tearing its way through the obstacles which nature interposed, increased the horror and beauty of this savage desert by a precipitate fall from rock to rock into the abyss of one of the deepest hollows, from whence it rushed with prodigious impetuosity for several miles to the bridge which we had passed. A great column of thick wood overhung and fringed its banks, while the dark colour and immense size of the rocks over which it took its course, added an indescribable sublimity to this cataract, which is called the Rhaidr-i-wennel. From hence a wild track penetrates into the interior of Snowdonia by Dolwyddellau castle, but we were deterred from pursuing it by bad weather. In our return to Llanrwst we passed beneath a very lofty and rocky mountain, clothed with wood, called Carreg-i-gwalch, near the foot of which we found the old mansion of Gwedir, formerly belonging to the family of Sir John Wynne, from which it passed into that of the dukes of Ancaster, and has lately given a title to Sir Peter Burrell, who married an heiress of that family.

We now pursued the turnpike road on the Caernarvonshire side of the river to Conway, and though the scenery was less striking than that of the opposite shore, it was still abundantly beautiful, and a variety of cascades rattled down the sides of the mountains as we passed them. The town of Conway, a most picturesque object without, is small, confined, and ill-built within. It is entirely enclosed by a high turretted wall ornamented with twenty-six round towers at regular distances, which are equally embattled, and now alike variegated with a profusion of ivy. These, together with three large gateways, are entire, and form a grand appendage to the adjacent castle; a majestic ruin rising proudly from the shelving sides of a rock, and washed by the high tides of the river. I could not but lament the impending decay of this noble building, several of whose lofty towers are already fallen, while others, having lost their foundation, hang suspended in the air by the cement which attaches them to the castle walls, and threaten destruction to the passengers and vessels below. Little remains entire within, except the fragments of stair-cases in most of the turrets, and one room 130 feet in length, adorned with nine fine Gothic windows and a large chimney-piece, which appears to have been the hall.—Both the position and architecture

teſture of this caſtle are truly grand, and a lofty and elegant turret raiſed on the top of each of its eight round projecting towers, adds an admirable air of lightneſs to the whole.—Edward I. founded this great fortrefs in 1284, and made the town of Conway a free borough, when he paſſed a Chriſtmas here in great ſplendour with his Queen Elinor and all his court. After ſurviving the ravages of the civil wars, a grant was made of it to Edward Earl of Conway, who diſmantled it of its iron, timber and lead, in 1665, and at preſent it is holden by a private proprietor under the crown. This gentleman, with a ſingular ſpirit, has planted and laid out a little hill, towards the mouth of the river, in ſeveral pleaſant walks, which command a fine view of the town and caſtle on one ſide, and the ſea on the other, giving to the whole the claſſic name of Arcadia.

A mountainous ride ſoon brought us from Conway to the coaſt, and the much celebrated paſs of Penmanmawr. That vaſt mountain riſes here 1400 feet almoſt perpendicular from the ſea; its huge ſides and lofty ſummit are embosſed with an infinite variety of projecting rocks, great fragments of which lie ſcattered every where down the ſteep deſcent, and encroach upon the limits of the ſea below. An excellent and almoſt level road, well protected with walls, is cut for above a mile on a ſhelf of this mountain, and the traveller paſſes on in the utmoſt ſecurity, in ſpite of the impending horror of the rocks above, and the tremendous precipice beat by the roaring billows below.—The gentle hills of Angleſea on the oppoſite coaſt, well-wooded and highly cultivated, with the town and caſtle of Beaumaries projecting into the ſea below the fine ſeat of Lord Bulkeley, preſented an agreeable landscape, as we paſſed the pleaſant inn and hamlet of Abor in our way to Bangor, and contraſted the mountainous ſcene which continued cloſe above us on our left.—The little city of Bangor excels many in the decent appearance of its buildings and its peculiar neatneſs; nor is its ſituation inferior, placed as it is in a vale backed by the mountains, and ſeparated from the ſea by a well-planted hill, the top of which affords an extenſive proſpect towards Angleſea, the coaſt, and the country. The cathedral, built by Biſhop Skeffington in 1532, is a plain pile neatly filled up within, and both the biſhop's palace and ſeveral of the prebendal houſes make a reſpectable appearance.

About two miles from Bangor we entered Angleſea by a ferry much more commodious than that of Conway. The aſpect of this iſland is at firſt barren, rugged, and full of rocky eminences; nor is the approach to Beaumaries, its principal town, made ſufficiently eaſy. Its ſituation amply repays the trouble of reaching it, and it conſiſts principally of one broad and handſome ſtreet, elevated on a bank riſing gently above the ſea at the entrance of the Menai Straits, before that channel becomes contracted.

Baron Hill, the beautiful ſeat of Lord Bulkeley, riſes from a ſwelling lawn above Beaumaries in the miſt of a thick grove, and the whole range of the Caernarvon mountains from Penmanmawr to Snowdon, appear from thence in the moſt majestic array, when viewed acroſs the broad expanſe of the intervening mirror. The caſtle is a plain but perfect Gothic building, forming a large ſquare, with round towers projecting at each angle, and preſents a grand object in front of the town at the bottom of the lawn of Baron Hill. The principal approach to that noble place is conducted through a part of the ruin, and the grounds do credit to the taſte with which its owner has embellished them; but the architecture of the houſe does not quite equal the ſurrounding ſcenery. In truth, a pavilion-like ſtructure, fronted with white ſtucco, covered

covered with a fantastic dome, and terminating in spruce bows on each side, suits but ill with the rude grandeur of the opposite heights of Penmanmawr, and the Alpine display of the whole extended Snowdonia.

Retracing our steps from Beaumaries, we rejoined the great road within two miles of Bangor ferry, and fixed our principal station at Gwyndu, a single house near the centre of Anglesea, where every accommodation was admirably supplied, and much enhanced by the attention of our worthy old landlady, who had been fixed on that spot for above forty years. The face of the country appeared uniformly uninteresting, being hilly without grandeur, and rocky without beauty; though not absolutely barren, it bore that rugged and ill-cultivated aspect which arises from poverty of soil and scarcity of inhabitants, for villages were rarely to be distinguished, and the few houses which appeared marked, the wretchedness of their tenants.

Our first excursion from Gwyndu was to Holyhead, in which place we were much disappointed; for, though a port of some consequence, and the great thoroughfare to our sister kingdom, it presented but a miserable shew of a few weather-beaten tenements sheltering themselves beneath a variety of small craggy eminences. The basin of this harbour is sufficiently large, and well protected both by nature and art; a long projecting headland forms a great bay in front, while a mighty mass of rock, the only grand feature in this part of the island, stretches far into the sea behind it, and swells to the magnitude of no inconsiderable mountain. From the summit of this hill, called the head of Holyhead, not only the coast of Ireland, but even several points of the Isle of Man are said to be visible, when the weather is sufficiently favourable.

Our next, as well as our principal object, was to visit the Paris Mountain, by far the greatest curiosity Anglesea can boast, and its most considerable source of wealth. —The copper mines in this part of the island are supposed to have been known to and worked by the Romans, and a lake on the mountain, which is now filled up, has been distinguished, long before the present works were formed, by the title of “the Mine Pool.” Various are the modes of accounting for the modern name of this mountain, the most probable of which makes it derived from the old Welch word *Praas*, signifying *brass*, which may easily be corrupted into Paris. Whatever may be the foundation of this conjecture, the Paris Mountain cannot fail to excite the admiration of all strangers, both from its appearance, the extent of its works, and the regularity with which they are conducted. This mine is considerably more than a mile in circumference, and on an average 1300 men are employed in it constantly; it has also the singular advantage of being worked in the open air, a circumstance which contributes much to expedite the several branches of labour and superintendence, as well as to secure the health of the persons employed. As a spectacle, it is not a little striking to behold a large arid mountain entirely stripped of its herbage by the steam of the sulphur works, and perforated with numberless caverns, which opening under lofty arches one below the other, seem to disclose the deepest arcana of the earth. The various positions of the crowds of men employed, the ascent and descent of innumerable baskets to bring up the ore, and the perpetual echo of the blasts of gunpowder introduced to dislodge it from the rock, produce an effect on the mind which I have seldom known to arise from the complicated and difficult investigation of mines otherwise circumstanced. Abundance of vitriolic water is found in these works, and its strength is so great as to turn in an instant whatever steel or iron is dipped in it to the colour and appearance of copper. This water it exposed to the sun in large open
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troughs,

troughs, and the copper quality is extracted from it by a very curious process; great quantities of sulphur also are produced, and its sublimation is carried on in various spots upon the mountain, till at last the whole is collected in some large boiling houses, and formed into rolls of brimstone. The copper ore is then carried down in carts or sledges to some smelting-houses constructed in the valley below, near the sea-side, where every remaining operation is performed with the utmost care and regularity.

In consequence of the riches extracted from this mountain, the neighbouring village of Amlwch has risen into eminence, which Lord Uxbridge and Mr. Hughes (the two great proprietors of the mines) have adorned with two elegant houses for their occasional residence, calling one the Mona, and the other the Paris lodge. The little port of Amlwch is placed in a small cove among the cliffs, about half a mile below the village, and admirably formed to receive and arrange the several vessels which are employed in the copper and brimstone trade. It often also affords a safe haven to those ships which in their passage from Ireland are driven to the north-east round the point of Holyhead; and cannot make that harbour.

Returning through the dismal village of Llanerchymydd to Gwyndu, we soon left the island of Anglesea, and repassed the Menai straits at Bangor ferry, from whence an excellent road, commanding a variety of fine prospects on the coast, led us to Caernarvon.—The wooded bank of the Anglesea shore stretched far before us on our right, decorated with a noble old seat of the Earl of Uxbridge, while below it the great channel of the Menai straits perpetually varied its form, presenting in one point of view a large navigable river, and in others the basin of a fine lake, encompassed by an amphitheatre of thick groves. The country immediately surrounding us was extremely pleasant, being interspersed with various gentle acclivities, which formed the entrance to as many wooded vallies, and penetrated in sight into the hollows of those high impending mountains which hid Snowdon from our view. At length all the attendant scenery became expanded, and as we approached Caernarvon, the towers of its mighty castle stood boldly forward before its embattled walls, just where the sea, emerging from its straits, and assuming its proper form, mixed with St. George's Channel, and washed the rocky shore on the south-west of Anglesea near Newburgh. The neatness and regularity of this town, its delightful situation, and the pleasant walk on its quay, with its accommodation for sea bathing, have induced several English families to make it their summer residence, for the purpose of avoiding the crowded inconvenience of the more polished, but less simple, public places in the south of England; hence has Caernarvon, like Swansea and Tenby in South Wales, acquired much improvement and a superior display of elegance from the resort of strangers, still preserving its original features.

Caernarvon, like Conway, is walled round, and its walls and gates are entire; it was made a free borough by Edward I., the royal founder of its castle. That magnificent fortress was finished in 1284, and was wonderfully situated for strength before the introduction of artillery, standing on an insulated neck of land, almost surrounded by the sea and the river Seiont. This rival of Conway in its splendor now languishes in a similar state of decay, and threatens by a speedy downfall, to deprive the country of one of its principal ornaments. A grand gateway, with a statue of its founder over it, guarded by four portcullises beneath a lofty tower, introduced us to the great oblong court of the castle. The towers of this court are high and angular, with turrets of the same kind rising from their tops, three of which decorate the great Eagle tower, in which we were shewn the apartment famous for the birth of Edward II, the first

English Prince of Wales. The noble prospect, however, which its summit affords is much more satisfactory to a traveller than the display of a small dark room, celebrated only for having produced the most weak and degenerate of our monarchs — There are some remains of the ancient Segontium near this town, and a summer-house on the opposite hill occupies the site of a Roman fort. The walk to this eminence is pleasant, and it commands an extensive view over the sea, the Straits, Anglesea, and the mountains, but it has lately been unmercifully stripped of the fine wood with which the whole hill was clothed.

An excursion from Caernarvon, rather curious than pleasant, tempted us to explore the long neck of land which forms the extreme point of its county, and making one horn of the great bay of Cardigan, unites the two parts of the principality towards the sea. — Our road lay for many miles immediately on the shore, with fine views of the extremity of Anglesea on the right, and a high chain of mountains in front, marked by the vast indented summits of the rock called Porthyndyllern Head, near the extremity of the peninsula. Close under its base we crossed this neck of land, and descending to the other coast, came in sight of the vast expanse of Cardigan bay, backed by the mountains of Merionethshire, and those extending from the conflux of the Dovey with the sea to Aberystwith and Cardigan. A more extraordinary amphitheatre of mountainous nature can hardly be imagined, arranging itself with small intervals around one of the largest bays in Great Britain. It reminded me somewhat of the grand display of the north-east bay of Scotland; but the opposite coast was more distant, and the boundary less eminently striking than that of the vast mountains of Sutherland and Rossshire, stretching down to the Firths of Dornoch and Cromartie, and opposed by those of Inverness and Aberdeenshires. In a cove close upon the shore, we found the little fishing town of Pwlwhelli, which, though a very poor place, is the principal one in this ill-inhabited district. — Proceeding nearly eastward along the shore towards the centre of the bay, we soon reached another town called Crickheith, distinguished only by the ruin of its castle on a high mount, nearly opposite to the grand object displayed by that of Harlech on a bold eminence of the Merionethshire coast. Our road now began to grow very indifferent, and several hills, dangerously steep, brought us to the wretched village of Penmorva, not far from which a road full of perils leads over the sands into Merionethshire, forming the nearest route from Caernarvon to Dolgelly. We pursued it no further, but satisfied with the short view we had taken of this part of the country, and disgusted with its bad roads and accommodations, we re-crossed the peninsula by a very arduous and uninteresting tract of hills, to Caernarvon.

CHAP. IV. — *Progress from Caernarvon through the Snowdonia, some of its Mountains and Lakes.*—*Transient View of Y, Wyddfa, or the Peak of Snowdon.*—*Bethkelert.*—*Grand Pass of the Pont-Aberglaslyn.*—*Wildness of the Merionethshire Mountains, and beautiful Contrast of the Descent into the Vale of Festiniog.*—*Striking Beauty of Tan-y-Bwlch.*—*Great Improvements in its District.*—*Excursions to Festiniog, Rhaidr Du, and Harlech Castle.*—*Intelligence of the Inhabitants in this Part of the Country, and their Attachment to the Harp.*—*Pleasing Accommodation at the Inn of Tan-y-Bwlch.*—*Cataract of Dolymyllyn.*—*Falls of the Cayne and Mothwage.*—*Dolgelly.*—*Comparative Height of Cader-Idris and Snowdon.*—*Fine Ride to Barmouth.*—*Lake and Town of Bala.*—*Pass of Glyndiffis.*—*Corwen.*—*Beauties of Glenweddy, or the Valley of the Dee.*—*Vale Crusis Abbey.*—*Charming Position of Llangollen and its Cottage.*—*Dinas Braan Castle.*—*Pass of the Berouin Mountain to Llanrhaidr.*—*Bareness and Grandeur of the Pistill Rhaidr.*

OUR grand object now was to explore the wonders of the Snowdonia, that immense pile of mountains, which encircle the mighty lord of this vast domain; but the incessant storms peculiar to this unequal district, and attended with strong gusts of wind, in great part frustrated the enterprize. In vain have I at two different seasons, attempted to visit the lake of Llanberis, and on that side to take the most advantageous view of Snowdon, but each time have I been baffled by the severity of the climate, which pursued me with unremitting adversity.——We were obliged therefore to content ourselves with the direct pass by Bethkelert, and entering the great defile of the mountains, took our farewell of all the beautiful objects which had so long attracted our attention on the coast of Caernarvonshire, together with the sunshine which had enlivened them.——The great cataract of Ys-Gwyrfa soon displayed itself before us, and we passed in silent amazement under the vast mountains of Moel-Eleàn, Castell-Cedwin, and Mwnwdd Vawr, the latter of which rose immediately from the great pool of the Cwellwyn lake, near the end of which the valley opened, and Y, Wyddfa, the lofty peak of Snowdon, appeared high in view above its subordinate summits. It was in vain again that we tried on this quarter to climb the side of this British atlas; a misty sky and a tempestuous day continued to resist our efforts; and obliged us, after a fruitless wandering about its rocky base, to take shelter in a miserable hovel at Bethkelert. From thence the wild aspect of the country frowned on us with the utmost asperity, and the rigor of an inclement season added fresh horror and majesty to the grand pass of Pont-Aberglaslyn. The vast ridges of mountains, ending in an immense perpendicular chain of rocks, which reared their aspiring heads far above the clouds, here impended over a deep hollow, through which rolled with savage impetuosity, that prodigious torrent which divides the counties of Caernarvon and Merioneth. Incessant fissures in the sides of these mountains presented an infinite variety of gushing cataracts, and increased the turbid stream, which, precipitating itself in an abrupt fall under the arch of the bridge connecting the rocks and forming the pass, rushed with redoubled violence towards the sea. The grandeur of this scene is indescribable, and it was followed by a continued series of wild and rocky heights, scarcely to be surmounted by the rude unequal track we pursued, while several vast torrents perpetually crossing it, threatened to interrupt its course. Agriculture seemed entirely banished from these tremendous wastes, and a few goats and sheep, the only denizens of this savage country,



Drawn by E. L. L. L.

Engraved by George Cooke

Snowdon, as seen from Bedgellert.

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try, were observed browsing on precipices to which few human steps could venture to follow them.—In the midst of such a desert, extending far around it on either side, the beautiful valley of Festiniog disclosed suddenly the strong contrast of its charms, and the pleasant inn of Tan-y-bwlch afforded us a welcome refuge from the storms with which we had been persecuted.

This enchanting valley smiles with the most luxurious cultivation, rich woods decorate its swelling hills, neat villages adorn its plains, and the gentle river Drwydd, winding in perpetual meanders through a range of fine pastures and meadows, flows in tranquil beauty towards the rocks that encircle the coast. Elevated on a high terrace, beneath a profusion of spreading groves fronting the south, the handsome mansion of the Griffith family at Tan-y-bwlch, enjoys at one view all the placid beauties of the valley, while the rugged and misshapen mountains that encompass it, form an awful close to this scene of delight, and forbid the eye to wander farther in search of pleasure. This delightful spot has been greatly improved by the spirit and taste of Mr. Oakley, who married its heiress; nor has his attention been confined merely to his own territory, the whole neighbourhood having profited by his exertions. On my second visit to this country, after an interval of six years, I found two noble bridges with a causeway, built across the valley, and the rugged track which led through the wilds of Merionethshire from Dolgelly, converted into one of the finest roads the art of man could devise, and so ingeniously drawn as to avoid all the laborious steep, except one abrupt descent into the valley. Neither was the Caernarvonshire side without its progressive amendment under the same auspices, and in consequence of this example, the hovel at Bethkelert was converted into a decent inn, and even the pass over the mountains from Tan-y-bwlch to the Pont-Aber-glaslyn was rendered more easy, though the heights to be surmounted in that quarter were far too arduous to be conquered with perfect success. Thus is a traveller now conducted, not only without fear, but with an incredible degree of ease and pleasure, through the centre of the most mountainous part of our island, and over eminences till of late impervious to a carriage, and with difficulty surmountable by a horse.

After tracing the valley by another good road to the little village of Festiniog, which stands on an eminence beneath the mountains that enclose its head, we proceeded down it opposite the groves and house of Tan-y-bwlch, till we turned to the left to visit a farm called the Rhaidr Du, or the Black cataract. It lies in the recess of a narrow glen, where a large stream dashing over a high precipice of dark rocks in the midst of a thick wood, presents a very picturesque object, and adds a new ornament to a stripe of country already decorated with a profusion of every natural beauty. Our track from thence to Harlech castle over a chain of mountains was difficult to find, but we had an intelligent guide in a young son of our landlady; the morning also was fair for our excursion, and the prospects which every ascent afforded were varied by alternate views of the sea and land.

The town of Harlech, once the capital of the county of Merioneth, is situated almost at the extremity of a barren desert, which desolates a great neck of land projecting into the sea, whose sands encompass it on two sides. A few miserable cottages, forming an irregular street, are all the visible remains of its former splendour, except the inconsiderable ruin of its county hall, and the magnificent walls of its castle. This noble edifice is the most perfect of the fortresses made by Edward I. on this coast, and seems to have been constructed with peculiar strength to resist the attacks of enemies, the

the inclemency of its exposed situation, and the depredations of time. — It was finished in the year 1283, was besieged, and with difficulty taken by the Earl of Pembroke in the wars of York and Lancaster, and was the last in North Wales which held out for the king in the rebellion. Before the use of gunpowder it must indeed have been almost impregnable, being founded on a high insulated rock, and accessible only by a drawbridge and three gateways strongly guarded by portcullises. Beside the four great circular towers that defend the entrance, there are others highly turretted at each of the angles of its principal court, and many of their apartments are almost entire. The remains of the chapel are also to be traced, and a staircase, yet whole, led us to a walk on the walls, from which we had an advantageous view of the coast and country, together with the bold architecture of the inner front of the castle.

We left Tan-y-bwlch on the following morning with regret, and from the top of the southern barrier of the valley of Festiniog took our farewell of a spot where we had passed several very pleasant days. The beauty of the surrounding scenery charmed us, and we were delighted first with the rude state of nature, and afterwards with the successful improvements of art; we found amusement in the intelligence, civility, and simplicity, of the rustic inhabitants, and even here our meals were enlivened with the music of the harp. In South Wales this original British instrument is much fallen into disuse, but throughout the whole of North Wales it is still cultivated with a degree of veneration, and scarce a family exists in the meanest cottage without at least one performer. At Conway we were regaled with the strains of a blind harper, who seemed the representative of an ancient druid, and the females of the house blended their vocal powers not unpleasantly with his notes, reciting chants which had been popular in former ages, and commemorations of their traditional heroes. The musical exhibition at Tan-y-bwlch, though less excellent, was nevertheless highly pleasing, and our hours there passed more agreeably than the accommodations of a small inn in a remote district will generally allow. These were enhanced greatly by the obliging and attentive conduct of our landlady with her family, who on my second visit lamented that her powers for the reception and entertainment of strangers were not enlarged among the other improvements of the vicinage. Time, however, must effect this, as the thoroughfare becomes more frequented, and when the roads are on all sides so far finished as to present an easy access to one of the most interesting spots nature can display, in her shew of placid beauty, not unattended with a majestic exterior.

Our course now lay for several miles over the mountains, and the views, though wild in the extreme, were wonderfully extensive; as the day was clear, we could easily discern the bold summit of Snowdon in the north, as we approached the heights of Cader-Idris in the south. After passing the miserable village of Trawsvyn-nydd, we descended gradually into a well wooded valley, and crossing a torrent, deviated from the road by a rough and boggy ascent, to visit the famous cascade of Dollymyllyn. The scene amply repaid our trouble, where the Gamlan, a considerable stream, rushing down a rapid slope, falls in a perpendicular cataract over the shelving side of an immense rock, from whence it is dashed back amidst perpetual spray arising from the opposite ridges of its narrow channel, and then runs foaming in a broken and impetuous torrent till it reaches the level of the valley below. This part of the country is remarkable for the striking scenery of its waterfalls, and the two cataracts of the Cayne and the Mothwaye, not many miles distant, abound equally in the features such objects present, intermixed with some peculiar points of picturesque beauty.

Such



Engraved by George Cooke.

Qader Idris.

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Such were the grand characters which distinguished this extraordinary country, our descent from which, on a hanging shelf above the river Mawdoch, brought us to Dolgelly, the modern capital of the wild county of Merioneth. This poor town has only its singularly striking situation to boast of, being composed of a few irregular and ill-built streets. The view from its bowling-green is peculiarly grand, and it derives much beauty from its position immediately under the northern base of Cader-Idris. That mighty mountain rises here in a slope nearly perpendicular, but broken by various rocky hollows to its two peaks, the highest of which, called Pen-y-cader, bears a very volcanic appearance. This circumstance has induced many travellers to compare the height of Cader-Idris with that of Snowdon, which from the irregularity of its ascent and the inequalities of its prodigious base, often deceives the eye, and seems less lofty than it really is. A nearer view cannot fail to dissipate the charm, and the admeasurement which has been accurately taken, settles the point; for, according to Mr. Pennant's account, the highest summit of Cader-Idris is not more than 2850 feet above the level of Dolgelly green; whereas the great peak of Snowdon called Y-wyddfa, or the conspicuous, is more than 3600 above the quay of Caernarvon.

Close to Dolgelly, the Mawdoch from the north meets the Avon from the east, and both together form a wide æstuary, which becomes an open sea near Barmouth. The ride on its northern bank can scarcely be paralleled in the boldness of its surrounding scenery, the romantic grandeur it exhibits in every part, and the extraordinary art and labour with which the road is constructed.——Winding round the hill opposite to Dolgelly on a fine level shelf, we soon came to the separation of the vallies opposite to Tan-y-bwlch and Barmouth, as we reached a handsome new bridge which crosses the Mawdoch, just before it falls into the Avon. Immediately after this junction, the expanse of water became more considerable, and at length filled the whole of the vale, bearing at high tide the appearance of a large lake encompassed with noble mountains. Their rocky sides waving in a vast variety of undulations, advanced towards the very margin of the water, sometimes covered with brush-wood, and at others frowning with all the majesty of impending cliffs. Where the ground would admit of it, small patches of cultivation, and a few verdant pastures enlivened the scene, being frequently intermixed with groves of high trees rising finely beneath eminences so placed as to shelter them from the sea winds. The road, following the inequalities of the coast, wound beautifully round the northern shore of this great basin, and shewed all its beauties to advantage, till the high rock of Barmouth, advancing far into the water, obliged it to occupy a shelf not unlike that of Penmanmawr, cut with great labour and ingenuity in its side. From thence we gained a view of the mouth of the river emerging into the sea from the recesses of a vast amphitheatre of mountains, among which the two points of Cader-Idris bore the most conspicuous appearance, and crowned the whole with indescribable grandeur. Barmouth is said to represent Gibraltar in its aspect and situation, being placed under a prodigious rock, and the houses occupying high terraces one above the other, as far as it was practicable to raise them. It may certainly be admired for its singular position, as well as the prospect it commands across the sea to those opposite hills of Caernarvonshire which form the extremity of the great bay of Cardigan; yet when considered as a town, it fell short of what I had been led to expect, both from the great labour and expence bestowed on its approach, and from its having long been frequented by many families of North Wales for the purpose of sea bathing. The place itself indeed is small, and the houses in general are mean and difficult of access from the inequalities of the ground on which they are built; the accommo-

dation of the inns also is very moderate, and the shore is obstructed by several hills of sand; notwithstanding which inconveniences Barmouth is commonly much crowded during the summer months, and lodgings are often very difficult to be obtained.

After our return to Dolgelly, a perpetual succession of heavy storms prevented our intended ascent of Cader-Idris, and we were, after various attempts, obliged to relinquish the design, which, from the same cause, I have never since been able to execute. The same fate ever attended me at Snowdon and Plinlimmon; and such is the stormy atmosphere surrounding these great eminences, that I believe much leisure and patience might be exhausted in vain to accomplish this object, though sometimes an accidental sunshine may render it easy. After all there is less to be regretted in the prevention of these expeditions than an unpractised traveller may imagine, for the elevation is too great for any display of picturesque beauty, every distinction of the vales is lost in the general chaos of the surrounding mountains, and the disposition of their rugged tops, when viewed from above, is rather a matter of curiosity than pleasure. Add to this, the labour of the undertaking, with the chance of its failure by some changes above, which we from below can neither foresee, nor even discover when they happen; compute the dangers that may arise from storms, fogs, violent gusts of wind, and extreme cold, and you may easily imagine the undertaking not very eligible without a favourable opportunity.

From Dolgelly we pursued the course of the Avon through a valley enclosed within high hills, and well inhabited, the river growing more rapid and the country wilder as we approached the barrier forming the division of those waters which feed the two great divisions of Merionethshire. After traversing some high grounds we gained at length a view of the lake of Bala or Pimble-Meer, the whole northern shore of which we traversed in our way to the town of Bala, which is situated at its eastern extremity. This lake, known by the names of Pimble-Meer or Lyn-Tegyd, is the largest in Wales, being near six miles in length and a mile in breadth; but its scenery is rather deficient, as the country about it is generally bare of wood, and the hills, though considerable, are void of that majesty which the mountainous country we had passed abounded in.—From the bottom of this lake issues the great river Dee, and passing under a romantic old bridge, winds gently in a wide and deep stream through a course of rich meadows towards Corwen and Llangollen. The town of Bala consists principally of one handsome street, with a high artificial mount, apparently the keep of a fortress, at the south-east end of it. Together with its lake and bridge it presents several agreeable objects to the neighbouring seat of Mr. Price, whose grounds are laid out in a very elegant modern taste under the judicious auspices of Mr. Eames. This agreeable spot is well sheltered from the mountains which impend over it by a thick grove, and a fine lawn descends from the house in several bold swells to the town. On the right a pleasant winding walk is conducted by the side of a rapid torrent, which flowing from the mountains, forms a winding dell beautifully fringed with wood in its passage, and joins the Dee soon after it emerges from its lake, in the meadows below.—Bala is surrounded on every side with mountains, through which various roads are curiously wrought towards Dinasmonthy at the back of Cader-Idris, towards Llanvilling over the Berouin, and towards Llanrwlst in the vicinage of the Snowdonia; all these tracts are remarkable for the wildness of the districts through which they lead, and that to Dinasmonthy in particular abounds in those romantic objects with which nature has decorated her most savage regions.

On

On leaving Bala and its lake, the aspect of the country was less interesting till we rejoined the Dee, which we crossed just before we reached the great Irish road, where we turned to the left for about a mile to see the pass of Glyndiffis, over which that road is conducted. A torrent here is precipitated from the hills with great force, fretting in perpetual curves between two chains of rocks, and falling at times perpendicularly from basin to basin. The road is so constructed as to follow the windings of the torrent on a shelf above it, springing across it by a bold arch in one place, and commanding all its falls interwoven beautifully with brush wood in great perfection; it thus ascends gradually to the wild moor of Caniogè above, after traversing which for many miles it descends in a long slope through one of the great woods which fringe the hills bounding the vale of Conway. We pursued it no farther, but returning through the pass of Glyndiffis, soon reached the neat town of Corwen on the banks of the Dee, at the extremity of Merionethshire, and close to the borders of Denbighshire.

This was the territory of that renowned hero Owen Glendower, the formidable opponent of Henry IV., in the 14th century, whose gigantic features still decorate the sign-post of the principal inn, and whose whole district yet bears the name of Glendwrwy, or the valley of the Dee. Leaving the turnpike road here, which abounds in beauties nearly equal to those we went in search of, we crossed the river by a handsome bridge of six arches, and soon reached Llandisilio, the charming seat of Mr. Jones, on the opposite side of the valley.—The mountains grew bolder and more abrupt as we proceeded, and thick woods with rich pastures, interspersed with an abundance of whitened cottages, and decorated with several gentlemen's seats, began to enliven the nearer ground, while the Dee, differing in its progress as well as its origin from the other rivers in this country, from the smooth and tranquil stream we first admired, became a rapid and furious torrent as we receded from its source, and forced its turbulent passage over a rocky bed between the various groves, cliffs, and mountains, which seemed planted there to obstruct its course.

In a narrow recess on the left, almost overshadowed by a vast luxuriance of wood, the elegant ruin of Vale Crucis abbey disclosed its monastic fragments to our sight. Distinct and separated as it is from the busy haunts of men, the most rigid enthusiast could not have chosen a spot more recluse, or better suited for the purposes of devotion and retirement. A vast chain of wild mountains hems it in on every side, leaving barely room between them for a little stream and a thick grove, amidst the gloomy shade of which the mouldering walls and arches of the abbey make a most picturesque appearance. This was a Cistercian monastery, founded by the name of Llan-Egwest, or de Valle Crucis, in the year 1200; its architecture is of that kind in which the Gothic began to admit some ornament, but had not yet arrived at the loaded accession of finery which has been improperly called "*the improved*." The pillars that supported the tower, and several of the doors, are specimens of this taste, but the arches within are mostly of the purer and more ancient Gothic, and some of the windows correspond nearly with those of Salisbury cathedral. Three sides of the church are mostly entire, as is part of the abbey, now inhabited by a farmer; and the west front, being almost perfect, cannot fail to attract the notice of every admirer of these interesting remnants of antiquity. The little valley in which this ruin is situated, soon terminates in the high ridge of hills forming the southern boundary of the vale of Clwydd, over which an excellent road is conducted to Ruthyn and Denbigh; but having already vi-

fited these places, we did not pursue it. We returned therefore to the banks of the Dee, which grew still bolder and more rapid as we advanced towards the fine Gothic bridge of Llangollen, a little town in Denbighshire beautifully situated above the southern bank of the river, and almost surrounded by the impending ridge of the Berouin mountains, from whose proud amphitheatre the boldest masses of insulated rock and wood appear to have started forth, and formed the irregular channel of this enchanting valley. Llangollen can claim little praise beyond what is bestowed on the transcendent beauty of its exterior; for within, it exhibits nothing but a narrow and ill-built street. We visited from thence a cottage with some adjacent grounds, which two accomplished ladies from Ireland had laid out and ornamented with much taste and elegance. The situation is romantic in the extreme, commanding the town and the vale below it, in which several well-wooded hills form an agreeable contrast to the wild scene behind, while encircling the summit of a huge conic mountain, the broken fragments of Dinas-Braan castle rise proudly in full front, and seem to defy every enemy but time, to which they have at length submitted.

Under the conduct of a guide not abounding in intelligence we again scaled the mountains, and pursued a very dreary and uneven track over the Berouin to the wretched village and still more miserable inn of Llanrhaidr, from whence a rugged lane led us to the celebrated cataract of the Pistill-Rhaidr. Though certainly the highest, this is far from being the most picturesque waterfall we had seen in our tour, and perhaps it fails at the first view to strike the sight so forcibly as might be expected, in consequence of the great defect it labours under in the total want of all external scenery. Here are no leafy groves to relieve the eye, no verdant lawns to smooth the approach, but a narrow valley between two barren hills carried us straight forward to the object of our search, which met our eyes with a disadvantageous sameness of appearance long before we arrived at it. We could not, however, but be impressed with its magnitude when we came upon the spot, though the stream was rather more scanty than usual from a temporary deficiency of water. A lofty barrier of black rocks closes the vale here, from whose summit the torrent descends in a perpendicular but uneven fall of about one hundred and fifty feet, at the bottom of which it has worn its passage through a ridge of the projecting rock, and rushes into the valley through an extraordinary arch of its own making in another descent of near fifty feet. The object was altogether singular and stupendous, and though the peculiar imagery of landscape was wanting, our most sanguine expectations could not but be exceeded by so great a production of nature, which seemed to invade the realms of fancy, and ape the magic drapery of an oriental romance.

CHAP. V. — *Llanvilling. — Welch Pool. — Powis Castle. — Vale of Montgomeryshire. — Newtown on Severn. — Llanidloes. — Sources of the Severn and the Wye. — Pass of the Mountains between Montgomeryshire and Cardiganshire, to the Devil's bridge. — Y-Spwtty-Ystwith. — Strata Florida Abbey. — Tregaron. — Llanbadern Vawr. — Talypont. — View of the Estuary of the Dovey. — Machynthleth. — Aberdovey and Barmouth Ferries. — Town Merionydd. — Wild Country at the Back of Cader-Idris. — Grand View of Dolgelly and its Vale from thence. — Romantic Scenery of the Dovey above Dinasmonthy. — Mallwydd. — Cann's Office. — Llanvair. — Montgomery. — Entrance of England. — Bishop's Castle. — Downton Castle. — Grandeur of Ludlow, its Castle, and public Walk. — Croft's Castle, Shobdon Court, and Berrington. — Leominster. — Hampton Court. — Weobly. — Return to Radnorshire and Brecknockshire.*

FROM Llanrhaidr we had a pleasant ride to Llanvilling a small town in Montgomeryshire hanging on the side of a hill, and after passing a cheerful valley washed by the river Vernieu, we crossed several high ridges, and descended to Welch-pool, the county town of Montgomery. This is one of the most flourishing places in North Wales, considerable works being established near it, and an unusual air of opulence prevailing both in the town and its vicinage. It consists principally of one very handsome street, perpetually enlivened with the shew of considerable trade; its situation also is delightful, in a charming vale a little above the bank of the Severn, and close to the fine grounds of Powis Castle. Lord Littleton's animated description of that mansion taught me to expect more beauty and grandeur than I found there, though its situation is certainly very striking, and the prospect it commands finely varied. The whole vale of Montgomery lies spread beneath the eminence on which it stands, and the hills bounding it on all sides rise in the boldest forms, while the Severn, though it does not here assume the appearance of a great river, shews itself pleasantly dispersed in several distinct points of view, and sufficiently enlivens the scene. The town of Welch-pool also adds a beauty to the whole, from its fortunate position, while the opposite mountains of Briethen and Moel-y-golfa rise at once out of the level of the vale with great sublimity; on the summit of one of which the county of Montgomery has erected a high pillar to commemorate the victory of Admiral Rodney. In addition to these distant objects, the sloping hills and swelling lawns of the park, covered with thick plantations, and decorated with abundance of fine timber, form a magnificent outline to the place, and command views wonderfully extensive on every side, taking in the summits of Cader-Idris, and some of the highest mountains in North Wales. — Graced with these striking advantages of position, Powis castle does not in itself present that majestic object which tradition and imagination would teach a traveller to look for, and the neglected state it has long languished in, deducts still more from its consequence. Built with a dusky red stone, which strikes the eye at a distance with the aspect of an ill coloured brick, an irregular mass of heavy walls and towers displays itself, almost without a front to be distinguished. The mournful solemnity of the wildernesses and grass-grown terraces of the gardens, descending in the forsaken grandeur of the last century, is exceeded by the general desolation and melancholy which prevail within, where a range of ill-shaped and uninhabited apartments exhibits the cumbrous pomp of old fashioned decoration, and seems tottering to decay with the few remaining turrets that surround it. A long room near the castle, which was once connected with it,
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has been lately fitted up in the modern style as a ball-room, but the proportion of 117 feet in length by only 20 in breadth is extremely deficient. Such is the present appearance of this grand but neglected place, on which if a very little of that taste and expence which have been lavished on inferior spots could be successfully bestowed, it would soon shine almost unrivalled in beauty and magnificence.

A rich vale watered by the Severn, here majestic in its infancy, conveyed us between fine meadows, pleasing enclosures, and populous villages, to the delightful spot which Newtown occupies, almost encompassed by the river, and surrounded by high wooded hills, on one of which a gentleman has built a temple, from whence some of the finest views in the country may be obtained. The plain now began to contract itself, and the mountains to close round it, through the various apertures of which several valleys opened, bringing their tributary waters to increase the Severn, which rolled its meandering stream between hills finely tufted with wood and variegated with pastures, as it descended from the heights of Plinlimmon to the little town of Llanidloes. The peculiar mixture of grandeur and population which distinguishes this tract of country, forms its principal ornament, and unites in a happy assemblage those objects which please the eye with their tranquil beauty, and surprise it with their stupendous appearance. Woods, orchards, corn-fields, and pastures, are scattered every where in profusion; neat farm houses and others of a superior order occupy some of the best positions, and many rough bridges of timber thrown across the river make a picturesque addition to the landscape, in which a degree of rustic elegance prevails, not incompatible with the general air of poverty and simplicity which seems annexed to the mountainous character of the country. Llanidloes, the only town of note in this district, though a poor place, is well laid out in four wide streets, with a spacious market-house in the centre; its wooden bridge over the Severn is very antient and much out of repair; but it appears to be used by carriages only in times of flood, the river here being fordable.

The sources of this river and the Wye are not far distant from Llanidloes in the recesses of Plinlimmon, each of which has formed the channel of a different valley, both being at first inconsiderable streams, and undistinguished by any peculiar objects. The Severn flows from the north-west, and bears at first the original British name of the Hafren river; the head of the Wye is at no great distance from it towards the south, and its course at first inclines southward.—As we quitted the banks of the Severn, and advanced towards those of the Wye, the wooded aspect of the country began to change, and cultivation contracting itself within narrower limits, became lost at length in an immense expanse of bare and dreary mountains. After an arduous ride of some miles, unmarked by any pleasing object, we descended to the Wye, at the melancholy village of Llangurig, and keeping some time on the side of it, crossed it by a marvelously rocky ford, where it was little more than a rivulet. Our road now became inexpressibly laborious, being in great part unfinished, and even where it was made, impending frightfully on a narrow shelf over tremendous precipices. At length we reached one of the heights which form the base of Plinlimmon, and descended precipitately to the banks of the Rhydol, which we followed to the wretched village of Spwttty, and soon afterwards crossed our original track from Aberystwith to Rhyadergowy near the Devil's bridge in Cardiganshire.

Passing beneath the woods and numerous plantations of Havod, we soon reached the village of Spwttty-Ystwith, and crossing a ridge of hills in which the Tivy finds its source, descended to the banks of that river to visit the few mouldering fragments of Strata Florida, or Strata Florida abbey. A fine circular gateway which formed the west
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end of the church, is all that remains sufficiently entire to convey an idea of its original structure, which was rebuilt by Edward I. after having been burnt in his wars with the Welch. The Tivy here is a small stream, and the town of Tregaron, to which it led us, an inconsiderable place, remarkable only for its church.——A very wild track from thence led us back to the banks of the Ystwith, just below Lord Lisburne's seat of Crosswood park; from whence we passed by Mr. Powell's pleasant place of Nantios, and leaving Aberystwith about two miles on the left, crossed the Rhydol to reach the ancient town of Llanbadern Vawr, which is thought to have been a Roman station. As Aberystwith has swelled into importance in its neighbourhood, this place has sunk into insignificance, and can now be reputed as little better than a village, the fine Gothic edifice of whose church, which was the cathedral of a British bishop, alone denotes its former grandeur.

At a short distance from Llanbadern Vawr we joined the great road leading from Aberystwith to North Wales, and after passing the village of Talypont gained a view of the coast, just where a bold range of mountains extend along the Merionethshire bank of the great river Dovey, which divides that county from Cardigan and Montgomeryshire.——This stream, which is here an æstuary, ravages a considerable plain with its inundations, and proves how strongly its irregular and violent supplies from the mountains at times preponderate over the regular current of the river, and the settled accession of its tides. The opposite range of mountains rises abruptly in those rocky piles for which North Wales is justly celebrated, while the river winds in a broad sheet of water, sometimes approaching their bases, and at others disporting itself in bold curves through the vale. The vale itself appears abundantly enriched with woods and the appearance of population; a variety of neat villages are spread over it, and several iron works are established within its confines: large vessels also are moored in different points of the river, so that the whole scene, as viewed from the road, which frequently occupies a high shelf above the southern bank of the Dovey, partakes in a very remarkable degree of the scenery appropriate to mountains, intermixed with the busy and artificial display which attends manufactories and navigable rivers.

Re-entering Montgomeryshire by the stream of Llyfnant, which divides it from Cardiganshire, we soon reached the town of Machynthleth, which may be considered as the capital of this pleasant and populous district, consisting of three handsome streets, with a good bridge. The Dovey, or Dyffi, which rises in the mountains between Dinasmonthy and Bala, flows beneath it, and falls into the sea at Aberdovey where a ferry is established across its mouth to the Cardiganshire bank; from whence a road leads on the coast southward to Aberystwith, and northward by another ferry over the æstuary of the Mawdoch and Avon to Barmouth. These ferries are very inconvenient, and the roads leading to them being narrow and ill-made, are frequently formed on a shelf on the cliffs, impending over the sea in frightful precipices, without the security of a parapet. In the course of this pass along the coast we came to the little town of Towyn, or Town Merionydd, backed by a range of high mountains, which (though not immediately on the coast) has been resorted to as a sea bathing place, after the manner of Barmouth, but has not much beauty or convenience to recommend it; Machynthleth is about twelve miles distant, and a good road is made across the hills, to that town, by which we returned to it.

As we advanced up the vale of the Dovey from Machynthleth towards the north, several beautiful points of view displayed themselves from every eminence, and the country, as far as the neat village of Mallwydd, bore a pleasant, populous, and cul-

tivated aspect. There nature began to assume her rougher dress, and when we reached the wretched and almost deserted town of Dinasmonthy, rocks appeared piled upon rocks before us, and the southern base of Cader-Idris seemed to block up all further passage. Winding through the hollows beneath that great mountain, we soon lost all traces of cultivation, with the appearance of human habitations; the river shrunk into a rivulet, and soon afterwards that rivulet was lost as we passed the several torrents which fed it in our laborious ascent over one of its protruding masses. Having at length gained this subordinate summit, we enjoyed a delightful view of the vale we had before visited, where the Mawdoch and the Avon uniting form a vast æstuary, and hasten to join the sea at Barmouth. Huge craggy mountains environ this spot and towards the west the high pointed summits of Cader-Idris are exalted; the valleys of the Avon and the Mawdoch present two charming stripes of cultivation below, encircling their rivers, and the town of Dolgelly appears to great advantage in the centre of the plain, with its high tower and the Gothic arches of its old bridge.

Returning to Dinasmonthy, which, though once a place of importance, can hardly now boast the consequence of a village, we penetrated into the recesses of those heights in which the Dovey finds its source, by the road which leads from thence to Bala, and were abundantly gratified with the display of mountains, rocks, and torrents, with which nature has superbly decorated this wild and romantic part of North Wales. At length, fully fatiated with its wonders and beauties, we returned into Montgomeryshire at Mallwydd, and passing over a considerable eminence, descended into a cheerful plain, in the centre of which a little above the river Verniew, we found the inn of Cann's or Canon's office, which was formerly an ecclesiastical or military station, and is surrounded with several traces of ancient fortifications. Another ascent at the extremity of this plain brought us to the small town of Llanvair, agreeably situated in a deep hollow surrounded by cultivated and wooded hills, rising in perpetual undulations.—After traversing a long succession of inequalities formed in the cavities of these hills, we reached one of the points where they terminate in the vale of the Severn between Welch-pool and Montgomery, and crossed that river near our former track, passing by Nant-cribba, a pleasant seat of Lord Hereford, to visit the latter place. We found it an ill built and irregular town, but the eminence on which it is situated is striking; the fragments of its castle, which are mere walls, stand boldly on a high mount projecting into the vale. This town was made a free borough by a charter of Henry III., and was a considerable place till the increasing importance of Welch-pool eclipsed it; since that time it has fallen into insignificance, and now bears rather a deserted appearance; its castle was reduced to ruins in the time of the civil wars, when it yielded to the parliament forces, after having experienced great variety of fortune since its foundation in 1092.

At the distance of a few miles from Montgomery, we finally quitted North Wales, and re-entered England; ascending a steep hill, from which we enjoyed a most extensive and beautiful prospect over the Severn, its vale, the town of Montgomery, and the plantations above Powis castle near Welch-pool. A downish tract of country in the remotest corner of Shropshire succeeded, where the old irregular town of Bishop's Castle lay spread over the side of a considerable eminence. Soon afterwards we passed through a fine park belonging to Lord Clive, within sight of the house, and proceeded through a rich and fertile vale to Ludlow.—About four miles before we reached that place, we deviated a little from the road, turning to the right towards the valley formed by the Teme, to visit Downton castle, the much admired seat of Mr. Knight. Great expence and peculiar taste have been bestowed on its formation, nor is there a

point about the house or grounds that does not mark the fancy of its owner, generally correct, and even pleasing in its eccentricities. A modern castle must be reckoned among these, for it is by no means a convenient form of building; nor does this in any respect, either of figure or position, resemble those ancient fortresses which abound in that quarter of the kingdom. Still, irregular and unaccountable as it appears, the eye is upon the whole rather pleased than offended with it, and the assortment of apartments within, some of which are very splendid, does not lessen its effect. In the management of his grounds Mr. Knight has been equally successful and particular; for though an accidental visitor may lament the want of expanded lawns, rising plantations, and a broad sheet of water, yet must his adherence to his system of leaving nature unfettered by art stand easily excused, if not applauded, where her thickets, her rivers, and her pastures, are so happily disposed. Charming indeed is the valley, which is here divided by the gentle Teme, flowing beneath a range of waving hills, clothed with thick wood, and crowned with tufted groves.

As soon as we regained the great road, we passed by a second seat of Lord Clive, called Oakley park, abounding in fine old timber, and immediately afterwards came in sight of the handsome town of Ludlow.

The bold situation of this place, covering the top of a considerable hill; its lofty tower, splendid houses, and the magnificent ruin of its castle, cannot but excite considerable surprise in a stranger, when first he observes the beauty and ornament with which nature and art have combined to create so polished a town in a remote corner of the kingdom. The church is a superb building, and most of the streets well-formed, notwithstanding their steepness, abound in handsome houses, which command extensive views over a beautiful country, terminated grandly by the Cley hills on one side. Ludlow castle, once the proud residence of the lords marchers of the Welch borders, now exhibits a majestic ruin, in which the symmetry of its great hall, and several other fine apartments may yet be traced; a large round tower stands in the centre of the court, whose Gothic arches and light pilasters are not unlike the decorations of some of our chapter-houses. Immediately beneath its walls a delightful public walk, well laid out and planted, is conducted round the mount which forms its foundation, commanding the Teme with its rich course of meadows, and the opposite range of wild irregular hills. This forms the principal promenade of the elegant town of Ludlow, and there do the modern beaux and belles of its neighbourhood assemble on a spot, renowned in the days of chivalry for the martial tournament, and in those of classic fame, for the poetic display of the court of Comus.

The noble but neglected residence of Croft's castle; Shobdon court, the fine seat of Lord Bateman; and Berrington, the highly ornamented place of Mr. Harley, attracted our attention as we descended into the rich vale of Herefordshire, abounding in orchards and hop-grounds, and encircled with hedge-rows of elms.—Deep in this plain, and surrounded by wretched roads, we found the old and ill-paved town of Leominster, observable only for its large church, in which the Saxon and Gothic forms of architecture are extraordinarily blended.—At a few miles distance from this town, under the Dinmoor hills, which divide this vale from that of Hereford, we sought the venerable mansion of Hampton-court, built by King Henry IV. of Lancaster, when earl of Hereford, afterwards possessed by the earls of Coningsby, and at present the seat of Lord Malden. Much addition having been made of late to this place, it may now be called a highly finished and elegant residence; but the old towers and gateways appeared to me the most interesting part of the structure. The

grounds also are well laid out in the modern taste, yet two great hills covered with rich wood, far eclipsed the new creation, and we lamented that some of the old avenue shade had been sacrificed to make room for young plantations.

Proceeding along the vale from Leominster by an execrable road, and passing beneath the two high conic hills called Robin Hood's butts, we soon reached the poor town of Weobly, distinguished only by its high spire, and situated beneath some fine rising grounds, which opening into the great plain of Herefordshire, disclosed all its riches again to our view. The silver stream of the Wye flowing through its enamelled meadows, and the bold projections of the Black mountain with the Van of Brecknockshire, now hailed our return to that delightful part of South Wales, where the hospitable mansions of our friends again received us after our long and interesting travel.

CHAP. VI. — *General Observations on Wales, and its Inhabitants.*

HAVING thus fulfilled my design in making a thorough survey of the principality of Wales, I cannot properly conclude this work without recording a few observations on the manners of the people and the nature of the countries I have described, following nearly the same line which I pursued in my remarks on Scotland and its inhabitants.

The division of Wales into its two great districts of North and South, and the several counties contained in them, is supposed to have been marked formerly by as great a variation in the manners of their inhabitants, produced by local customs prevailing in each, and the systems of hostility which existed under their several princes. The frank and earnest temper of the Welch, aided by a natural degree of characteristic pride, kept up the spirit of these distinctions long after the causes of them had subsided, and few nations have shewn, in modern times at least, so strong an attachment to the customs, the traditions, and the long-traced descent of their ancestors. Insensibly, however, in the lapse of time, are these points of variation from their neighbours sinking into oblivion, their asperities have been softened down by mutual intercourse, and what remains is far more pleasing and curious than offensive to a stranger.—The provincial divisions have long since ceased to present any material difference in manners, except where peculiar circumstances (as in almost the whole of Pembrokeshire, and a part of the coast of Glamorganshire), have introduced a totally different people. Even the greater separation between the inhabitants of North and South Wales has, in a considerable degree, disappeared; their manners being so blended that, except the uniform and almost exclusive attachment to the music of the harp, it is now difficult to distinguish the few traces of originality which have been so long boasted by the native of North Wales as proofs of his superiority. The intervention of a third nation has in great measure effected this, and the domineering influence of the English character has in a manner amalgamated itself with two collateral masses, which might perhaps, though not insimilar, have never otherwise thoroughly united with each other. English laws, English judges, and above all, the constantly increasing connection with English families, must in time do away every essential difference between the inhabitants of the two countries, and if another century is allowed to roll on in prosperity, even the language of Wales seems likely to be lost, and those traits of peculiarity, which we now find it difficult to collect, will vanish.

Refine.

Refinement has not yet attained to so high a pitch in Wales that the social virtues should be extinguished, or even much obscured by apathy; among these virtues may justly be reckoned that singular attachment of its inhabitants to each other, which prevails most eminently in private families, and universally in the whole community. Thus is the general band of union strengthened by reciprocal good offices between all orders of people, the rich assisting the poor with a kind of parental solicitude for their welfare, and the peasants exhibiting that veneration towards their great land-owners, which they have been accustomed to shew from age to age to their ancestors. So harmless a relique of the feudal dominion is productive here of much benefit to society, for instances of oppression and tyranny are very rare in modern times, nor perhaps are those in power more disposed to misuse it, than those under them to submit to an undue exercise of it. Yet is even this happy trait of character in danger of being lost as refinement increases, if the gentlemen of Wales, following the example of those of England, desert their proper stations, and lose once that high estimation which the imposing presence of an active and upright landlord has transmitted to posterity.—A more useful or dignified being indeed can hardly exist than a native man of landed property in Wales, living with credit in the mansion house of his ancestors, and exercising his talents for the general good as an upright magistrate, a friendly neighbour, and a liberal benefactor.

High spirit, energetic animation, and courage, may be accounted strong points of the Welch character; and these, when properly exhibited, cannot fail to create respect and admiration. That zeal which attaches the numerous branches of families to each other, and the tenants to their landlords, often calls these propensities of the mind into action, nor are there wanting examples, in which they have been displayed with a force and sentiment almost bordering upon romance. A striking instance of natural, as well as national intrepidity, was shewn in the spring of 1797, when crowds thronged together on the first rumour of the French invasion; peasants unused to military discipline, ranged themselves under the standard of Lord Cawdor, and even the women of Pembrokeshire contributed to dismay the enemy.

Hospitality, that engaging affection, which may take root in every nation, but which retreats in general from the seats of opulence and luxury, is peculiarly adapted to the disposition of the Welch, and wherever an opportunity has occurred, I have often witnessed its fascinating influence. This ever-blooming flower frequently adorns those rugged tracts which would seem almost impervious to the haunts of men, in the most dreary wilds it charms the wearied senses of the traveller, and it flourishes eminently in the remotest vallies of Cambria.—Open, ingenuous, and considerate, the native gentleman of Wales dispenses freely around him the benefits he receives from his position, and supports the character he derives from his predecessors by a well-timed and liberal attention to all who fall within his sphere of action. No aspersion can be more false than that which has described the Welch as averse to strangers, and well may those travellers contradict it, who coming into the country properly recommended, have been shewn its curiosities with all the energy of zealous attention, and entertained with that kind of impressive welcome, which may be sought for in vain in more polished districts.

Some few defects appear amidst the many valuable qualities of the Welch; but even these may frequently be traced to the excess of virtues, and as the general civilization increases, they will no longer be observable. Hence has the natural character for animation sometimes partaken too much of warmth of temper, and a hastiness of ex-

pression has gained the Welchman the reputation of being quarrelsome. Conviviality in too great an extreme, has in some societies led to habitual intemperance; the minute attention to ancient customs has often retarded improvement, and the veneration shewn to a long line of ancestors has occasionally degenerated into the stiffness of family pride. The higher orders of society have already, in great measure, emancipated themselves from these shackles, but the lower are yet slow in following so laudable an example. Among them the prevalent vice of drunkenness is apt to foster the seeds of every other evil; a litigious spirit, too often fomented industriously by the arts of chicane, supercedes frequently the natural tendency to fair dealing, an habitual idleness shuts up the sources of industry, and a want of attention to cleanliness, encumbering poverty, degrades it by the squalid appearance of want, raggedness, and disease.—These shades in the national character, which are by no means so general as they have been, already fading imperceptibly beneath the sunshine of prosperity, and the introduction of arts and manufactures, must ultimately yield to that enlightened spirit which arises from an enlarged intercourse with other countries, and the regular progress of improvement in every branch of industry.

Man has not alone been considered in the blessings so liberally bestowed, for the face of Nature must abundantly confess her benign influence, and Wales far exceeds all its neighbouring districts in romantic beauty. In cultivation and refinement, it certainly as yet falls short of its powerful and polished mistress; but in the rude grandeur and unfettered sublimity of wild rocks, lofty mountains, and rapid torrents, few countries can surpass it. Its vales, fertile, picturesque, and well inhabited, frequently burst upon the sight of an astonished traveller with a charm difficult to be described, after he has traversed the long and dreary waste of the intervening mountains. Fine rivers, abounding in romantic scenery, pervade the principality in every direction, and issuing from their central mountains, form in their curves those vallies through which they disport themselves in their passage to either sea. These streams are mostly rapid in their origin, but many of them change their character, like the Severn, from the nature of the countries through which they flow; and some, like the Wye, after experiencing such a change, resume at last their pristine appearance, and become again engulfed in rocks and mountains.

The Severn may be said to belong indiscriminately to either division, while the Dee, with the Conway and the Dovey, in North Wales, may be fully thought rivals to the Wye, the Uske, and the Towey, in the south. The Bristol channel and the mouth of the Dee may be considered as æstuaries nearly equal in magnitude; the romantic beauties of the Tivy, the Ystwith, and the Rhydol, may be balanced with those of the Clwydd, the Drwydd, and the Mawdoch; nor can the broad basin of Milford-haven in South Wales, be thought insimilar to the lake of Bala in the North, either in the grandeur of its form, or its bareness, while the scenery attendant on its curving branches may answer to that which decorates the Menai straits between Caernarvonshire and Anglesea.—In the height of its mountains, their rocks, and cataracts, North Wales must certainly claim the pre-eminence, nor can the wild tracts surrounding the bases of Snowdon, Cader-Idris, and the valley of the Dee, be matched by corresponding objects in its southern neighbour.—In cultivation and abundant population, South Wales may justly bear the palm of preference, and that division peculiarly excels in the effect produced by rich plains and vallies, thickly overspread with towns and villages, and bounded by a majestic outline of hills, which in many parts aspire to the grandeur and elevation of mountains.

Each country may boast its vales, which generally take their names from their appropriate rivers: the vales of Clwydd and of Montgomery are the only very expanded ones I know in North Wales; but those of the Dee, the Conway, and of Festiniog, are wonderfully superior in romantic features, and the majesty of the surrounding objects. Those of the Wye, the Towey, and the Uske, in South Wales, excel both in extent, population, and placid beauty, intermixed with various majestic features; those of the Taaffe, the Neath, the Tivy, the Ystwith, and the Rhydol, partake much of the appropriate scenery of the lesser vallies of North Wales, but do not fully equal them.—The towns and villages differ not much in either country, but are more abundant in South Wales, and in both they have experienced improvement from occasional circumstances; great roads towards Ireland have been introduced through each, and in both have manufactures been established with much spirit and effect, so that the coal and iron works of Merthyr-Tydvil and its vicinage in Glamorganshire and Brecknockshire may vie with those of copper in the Paris mountain in Anglesea, and the various establishments near Holywell in Flintshire. This advantageous accession of commercial importance is gradually increasing in perfection, and canals made to transport its productions are now forming to pervade the country in various directions, and facilitate the intercourse of the several divisions with each other, and of both with England.—Throughout the whole of Wales are to be traced in various parts the military roads and several curious reliques of the Romans; the monuments of ancient British grandeur are still more universal, nor do the ivy-mantled abbey or the ruined castle appear any where more frequent, or in more picturesque positions. The proud towers of Caernarvon, Conway, and Harlech, with the abbeys of Vale-crucis and Basinkwork, distinguish North Wales; and South Wales may as justly pride itself in the magnificent fragments of Caerphilli, Pembroke, and Kilgarren castles, with the splendid monastic remains of Tintern, Llantony, and Strata Florida, and the princely ecclesiastical ruins of St. David's.

Thus have nature, art, and even the vestiges of decayed grandeur, adorned both parts of this interesting portion of our island with peculiar and mutual advantages; for the increasing improvement of each happy tract we may be allowed to hope, from the continued favour of Providence, and the successful industry of man. So, when that happy period arrives, in which all local distinctions of its parts are lost in the perfection of the whole, the impetuous spirit of the Welch, corrected by, and correcting in its turn, the tempered perseverance of the English, may contribute to confirm, and prolong to future ages, the energetic respectability of the British character.

*THE FOLLOWING ACCOUNT OF A NEW TOUR IN WALES, IS EXTRACTED
FROM MR. MALKIN'S TOUR.*

SINCE the first edition of this work was published, Merthyr-Tydvil church has been taken down, and is re-building on a larger scale. The chapel is finished, and licensed by the bishop. On my visit to this place, in the summer of 1806, I found that great improvements had been made in the town within the last two years. Many new streets, in addition to those before mentioned, have been built, which are sufficiently strait and wide, and more have been laid out. The new houses are in general good, and some of the older streets have been re-built on an improved plan. Mr. Maber, the rector, has lately obtained an act of parliament to enable him to grant leases on the glebe for building. These leases are in general for three lives, but some of them for a term of years. Nearly the whole of the glebe has been laid out in regular streets for building; but the effects of the scheme cannot be ascertained for some time, as the profits will be uncertain, and the dilapidation very great. Should this speculation answer, it may be calculated that when these leases expire, the annual rents of the houses, with other advantages which will accrue from an extended population, will render the rectory of Merthyr-Tydvil greatly superior in yearly income to the bishopric of Landaff. It is a curious circumstance, that a few years back the whole revenue of the rectory, which was then more than three hundred pounds per annum, was insufficient to pay the parochial rates. I think, if my memory is correct, that in one year Mr. Maber paid five pounds more than he received from his living. The poor-rates are tremendous, owing to the influx of strangers to the works.

A very good canal, of which some incidental notice has before been taken, is made from Merthyr-Tydvil to Cardiff. It was begun about sixteen years ago, and completed in June 1798. From the tide-lock, where it enters Penarth harbour, up to the town of Cardiff, it is navigable, as was before mentioned, for ships of 40 tons; but from Cardiff to Merthyr-Tydvil, it is navigable for barges of 100 tons: the head of this canal, at Merthyr-Tydvil bridge, is 568 feet five inches higher than the tide-lock, two miles below Cardiff, where it falls into Penarth harbour; and for a part of this distance it skirts precipitous mountains, at the height of near 300 feet above the river Taaffe, which it closely accompanies through its whole length. This canal has upwards of forty locks on it, in the space of twenty-six miles, which is its whole length; and it is crossed by more than forty bridges. The new tram-road runs nearly by its side. It was constructed under the first act of parliament ever passed for these roads. On the twenty-first of February 1804, ten tons of iron and seventy persons were drawn for nine miles by the power of steam.

Merthyr-Tydvil has three market-places, which are well supplied twice every week, on Wednesdays and Saturdays. It has several fairs in the year; and in the same parish, on the top of a mountain, about two miles out of the town, there is a very ancient market-place, with a large public-house and a cottage or two. Here weekly markets have been held for at least 800 years, during the summer season, from the fourteenth of May to the fourteenth of October. This singular market is in its season frequented by great numbers. There are also several large fairs for cattle chiefly held here.

The neighbourhood of Merthyr-Tydvil abounds with excellent coal, iron ore, very good mill-stones, and lime-stone rocks, in which are found beds of black marble, equal to that of Derbyshire. They afford marble of various other colours, some variegated like the Broccatello in the South of France. In this country impregnated with iron, chalybeate springs abound. Excellent flag-stones for paving, and a very good kind of slate for covering roofs, are plentifully found in this neighbourhood, and indeed throughout the mountainous district of Glamorgan. While I am on this subject, it will not be impertinent to observe, that though the French are, generally speaking, infinitely behind us in all the useful arts of life, they have a manifest superiority in their mode of tiling and slating their houses. The roof of a house in Paris is as symmetrical a part of the building as the elegant stone front; nor is the one discernable from the other but by a near and curious examination; but our clumsy and inartificial roofs either disfigure the architecture most unmercifully, or are concealed by the unworkmanlike device of a parapet, which contributes neither utility nor ornament, beyond the negative apology of covering a defect. *Malkin's South Wales*, 1807, 2 vols. 8vo. I. 276.

The Description given by Mr. MALKIN of the classical House of Havod (since unfortunately destroyed by Fire) will, though somewhat prolix, interest every Reader of Taste.

BEYOND the lead mines, the smoothness of the road, a narrow stripe of cultivation by the Ystwith, on which, however poor, the bewildered eye fixes as a resting-place, a hill in front, crowned with the novel ornament of a plantation, bespeak the approach to objects more chearful, to a scene of brilliant enchantment, prepared behind the shifting caverns and magic-struck abodes, which seem only placed there to heighten the effect, and be withdrawn. I do not know that I was ever sensible of more pleasure or relief, than on the unexpected sight of that woody hill, at my first visit. The road turning suddenly to the right, leads up to Pentre Briwnant inn, one of the most wretched and destitute imaginable, in a situation that challenges the residence of a nobleman. It is placed on the edge of a very high hill, overlooking the continuation of Cwm Ystwith into Havod grounds, and backed by a large mountain towering above it, surmounted in its turn by higher elevations, rising to the top of Plinlimmon. The barren and gloomy prevails over the landscape; but the softening features to the left add an inexpressible charm, and render the site of this poor inn a subject of picturesque admiration and envy. The premises are on the same estate with the lead mines. They are miserable, and miserably kept: yet are the attractions of the vicinity such, that many parties are induced to bear with the privations of the place for days together, while they explore sometimes the wild, and sometimes the cultivated beauties surrounding them.

The entrance to Havod by this approach, is at the shepherd's cot, on the hill to the South. The descent by the foot-path from Pentre Briwnant inn is steep and romantic. The foot-bridge across the stream affords a scene of picturesque and entangled wildness. The hard and milk-white rocks above are worn into a whimsical variety of shapes. The wood around and below hangs its ornamental fringe over the rugged workmanship of nature; while the torrent, foaming between its rough and deepened confines, salutes

salutes both the eye and ear in its tumultuous passage down the declivity. The encircling hills, which hem in the low recess on every side, with here and there a single cottage on their brows, impose an aspect of dignified retirement on the whole, while the lower view, penetrating the groves that exquisitely furnish what the name implies, a summer retreat, gives a foretaste of the pleasures to be enjoyed within the domain. It is a characteristic of Havod, that it does not unfold itself at first: there is no approach by which the stranger's admiration is arrested at the gate. The way by the shepherd's cot, leading only round the farm, is not a carriage road. It is the least striking of all the entrances, and therefore, perhaps the best. Some of the younger plantations form the only clothing of the hills in this angle; but these promise hereafter to rise into stately woods. For some little way, we encounter the roughness and disorder of an entirely new creation. High as is the ground on which we stand, the ulterior prospect is intercepted by a massy rock of great compass and elevation, protruding its sharp corners and projecting fragments in every direction, almost divested of soil, and but lately a mere object of barren horror. Yet has this hopeless experiment been submitted to the planter's hand, and that with practical success. Every year the hardy firs are extending their bolder shoots, and more richly adorning that ruggedness by contrast, which their utmost luxuriance can never tame. If such be the character of this rock, as you pass under it on high ground, I need scarcely say how ornamental it appears, when viewed at various points from the depth of the valley. The road winds round this promontory, and escaping from its obstructions, suddenly opens on such an assemblage of beauty and grandeur, stretched out to the very limits of the perspective, as few spots on this island can equal for surprise and singularity. After having been travelling at the foot of Plinlimmon, to find the bed of the Ystwith, with its groves and meadows, still far beneath the level on which we are standing, is so unexpected a circumstance, that we rather start, as at the withdrawing of a curtain from before a picture, than believe it a reality. The winding of the river, here foaming impetuously over rocks, there spreading its broad and glassy surface, like a lake; the endless woods, hanging on the mountain sides in long array, sometimes rising to the top, but oftener contrasted by the naked ridge; some planted there by nature, before all attested evidence of human habitation; yet more that owe their luxuriance to the novel and well directed efforts of their owner; tracts of cultivation, picturesquely circumstanced, breaking out in the distances, and destroying the uniformity;—all these, and a thousand other indescribable beauties, conspire to render the first general view of this place so satisfying, as to set at defiance all hazard of disappointment from the most sanguine anticipation. Nor will even the annual visitor look with a satiated eye at the growing improvements of the scene whether natural or artificial. The point of view I am describing is still further adorned by the elegant spire of a beautiful little church, embosomed in the highest woods of the opposite hill. This church was finished but a few months before my first arrival, and had no existence when the latest description of Havod was written, but now rises into one of its first ornaments, and announces to the stranger a new order of things in the wilds of Cardiganshire. At the time of my summer visit, I had not the advantage of being with the family; but I had been overtaken by appointment on my way, by an intelligent and indefatigable friend, in whose company I had determined to explore, whatever we could discover that was interesting, beyond the route of the customary attendant. We immediately decided to make for the church, and, for that purpose, leaving the broader road, crossed a wooden foot-bridge, with one rail, picturesquely overhung with a luxuriant oak, over a deep-bedded, black, and rocky mountain brook. The
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natural timber here is nurtured and drawn up, under the protection of the warm and sheltered dingle, to a size and growth the most magnificent and flourishing. The ascent to the church through the wood is steep, but the path is secure and smooth. The church-yard may rival, for romantic accompaniments, that of Aberedwy, and for interest almost Briton Ferry. It commands, through a natural lattice-work of intervening groves, the cultivated valley below, and the naked sheepwalks of the heights opposite. It is difficult to avoid smiling at the pompous devices, by which the country people aim at testifying their respect for the deceased. They sometimes even aspire so high, doubtless by the benefit of clergy, as to tag their vernacular panegyric with a Latin couplet. With respect to the church itself, I shall reserve what I have to say of it, till I come to speak of the establishments at Havod. We descended by another richly sylvan path, through the hanging wood, and came out at the bottom of the mill cascade, on the mountain brook before mentioned. Here is a simple alcove, which at once affords accommodation to the admirer of nature, if he wishes to prolong his stay, and adds an unobtrusive decoration to a spot frowning on the higher pretensions of art. The volume of water is rather scanty, except in floods; but the fall is so broken by intervening rocks and foliage, and the top altogether screened by a huge mass, that its occasional poverty is not disclosed; indeed, after tempests, it forces its way over every obstruction, and tumbles headlong in one enlarged and tremendous cataract. It is most advantageously seen from the building, at the distance of some hundred feet. Between it and the alcove, there is a rustic foot-bridge, which composes well in the picture. The pool at the bottom boils impetuously, and the current rushes forward, struggling among rocks, or engulfed in deep cauldrons, and darkened by the shadows falling from the excavated sides. The whole course of the brook to the river, is so steeply inclined, that it furnishes an uninterrupted succession of something approaching to cascades. We now pursued the path through the woods, with occasional spots of pasture and tillage, seen through the opening villas, till we came to the new carriage road to the house. Here the grand masses of wood which clothe the hills, the Ystwith again roaring obstreperously along its bed, or sometimes sweeping over its broad and pebbly channel, offered themselves more amply to our view at every step. A sudden turn, most judiciously managed, brings the stranger unprepared almost before the very portico of an elegant mansion, which he had been expecting to have descried from afar. The situation of the house is admirably chosen, commanding the river with its winding vale from the shelving ground on which it stands. The lawn slopes elegantly, but naturally, down to the water; and immediately behind it, rises a most beautifully wooded hill, as if formed for the purpose of giving shelter and an air of repose to a classic residence. Majestic woods, reaching to a great extent along the acclivity, at once protect and adorn the chosen spot; while the sheep-walks on the other side the Ystwith, topped by rocks, that thrust their projections among the very clouds, remind us by what a style of nature we are surrounded, in the midst of an artificial paradise.

But the principal walks, and those of great extent, are on the opposite side of the river. On crossing the lawn from the house there is an appropriate wooden bridge over the Ystwith, supported in the middle by a stone buttress. The frame work of this bridge is so constructed, as hitherto to have withstood the impetuosity of the torrent, and its simplicity accords better with the scene, than the higher efforts of refined art would have done. After having passed it, by keeping along the road to the

farm, you soon begin to rise from the valley in which the house and gardens are embosomed. The road goes to the top of the mountain; but after having ascended some way, a path to the left, carried on a very high level, very narrow, and cut with great labour out of the solid rock, leads through the most romantic recesses of this interesting place. The noise of abundant rills, the mossy stones, the wild and tangled under-wood, the larger timber, with which the side of the precipice is clothed, feed and fill the attention, without allowing time to look out for objects beyond, or contemplate the depth below. On a sudden, a mass of rock in front seems to stop all further progress: it thrusts itself perpendicularly across the passage, and its base is fixed far beneath. On approaching it, the solid mountain is found to have been perforated, though its substance is so hard, as to have occasioned the greatest difficulty, and frequently to have turned the tools of the workmen. The darkness of the chasm, with the brawling of lesser falls incessantly underneath, combines a sort of picturesque falling with the poetical gloom of this unusual passage. After creeping through, the smooth and slippery path, narrowing, and becoming more tremendous as it ascends, winds round the front of a mossy promontory, which unfolds, from its abrupt elevation, a full view of the beautiful and sublime effects combined in this extraordinary domain. Standing on a narrow ledge, half way up the rock, with a perpendicular precipice below, and another of equal height above, we have on one side, the river sweeping through the valley, and dividing it into equal parts, harmoniously corresponding as well in magnificence as extent. On the other side, the largest of those many mountain torrents, which embellish or make grand this glorious scene, forces its way down to join the Ystwith; its roar loud and incessant; its foam sparkling partially at intervals through the network of intervening foliage, or escaping from behind the rock that obtrudes itself on the confined and over-shadowed channel. Cultivated fields, intermixed with all this wild beauty; a range of opposite hills, precipitous and stately as those on which we are placed, splendidly arrayed with hanging woods; the elegant church spire, just rising from among the trees, and asserting its new-born honours in this sylvan retreat, carry our admiration without abatement from point to point, and make us hesitate, whether to prefer the nearer or the more distant objects; the ruder aspect of nature in her majestic mood, or the judicious efforts of sensible and modest art, to graft convenience and improvement on the peculiarities of mountain scenery, without fighting tastelessly against its character. On emerging from the forest, we soon arrive on a tumultuously formed knoll, lofty, verdant, and unencumbered, which commands a still more extensive prospect of the valley, and takes in nearly the whole of Havod. It has been regretted by some, that the house was not built on this proud eminence; but it appears to me, that good taste and comfort were both consulted in the choice of the present situation. The inducement to explore should never be withdrawn, by a sweeping survey from a balcony or portico: however wide the range, the idea of magnitude is impaired, by the very possibility of comprehending it all at once. Here are forests, rising upon the river on each side, bordered with rich pastures, and interspersed with shepherds' cots; the jagged rock, or smooth and verdant mountain, near whose summit vegetation languishes; and the bare hills that terminate the scene, and mingle with the horizon, in contrast with the luxuriance of Havod. But such scenes are better visited occasionally, than continually fatiating the eye, and palling on the imagination. Nothing can be conceived, if I may so express it, more domestically picturesque, than the summer dining-room, with the hall door thrown open towards the water, and the rich and classical little hill rising before the window on the other side. This elevated situation

situation could have afforded nothing so elegant or so appropriately beautiful. After continuing round the brow of this majestic hill, we suddenly close in upon the brook, which forms so remarkable a feature in these grounds. A cascade of mighty force, immediately announces itself by its roar; and the surprize is the greater, as the scene that meets the eye assigns no cause for the impression on the ear. As we creep along the winding and slippery path, a dark hollow in the rock attracts our notice on the right; the din of falling water reverberates through the cave, and makes us hesitate about committing ourselves to its damp and gloomy recesses. By a simple but successful trial of art, the termination of the passage forwards seems to disappoint our hopes, when on turning suddenly to the left, a rude aperture admits the light, and a sparkling sheet of water, in front of the aperture, urges its perpendicular fall from the rock above, into a deep hole below the cave. The place and mannner of viewing this portion of a cascade is the most happy that could have been devised; and the more so as the mind is left unsatiated, and eager to know through what unusual channel the brook is to find its way downwards, from the unfilled receiver of its abundant waters. There is neither foliage nor herbage; nothing but rock and water, confined as it were in one of nature's cabins. The most striking feature is the luminous appearance of the foaming element, seen from so dark a station, glittering as if with gems. My friend Mr. Stothard, who was here on a visit in the year 1805, has kindly furnished me with this singular scene, delineated by his own pencil on the spot, as well as with a view of the valley from the hill where it was proposed that the house should have been built, as frontispieces to these volumes. Entrusting such subjects to his language rather than my own, I shall now take my leave of the cave, with observing, that after heavy rains it is inaccessible, and next proceed to the description of the great cascade.

After descending by steps of loose slate from the eminence at which the first jet of the whole brook is seen, a rude bridge leads across the channel of the torrent, relieving all uncertainty as to the outlet from the pool below the cave, and accounting for the echoed sounds that have beat upon the ear throughout our passage up the ravine. In front of the bridge, at a little distance, the stream comes tumbling over in a continued fall of about 100 feet, including that part of it which has already been described. The portion here presenting itself to our admiration, is where the overflowing of the deep boiler projects itself angularly over the smooth rock, and leaps down the ledges of its rugged and precipitate descent, in a broken shower of vexed and stormy foam. The disposition of the rocks that line the bed of this turbulent stream, to narrow its boundaries and impede its progress, helps greatly to give it that individual character which distinguishes its concomitant scenery from the common-place exhibitions of artificial management, where it is attempted to graft exotics on the homely consistency of nature; to refine her where she meant to be rude, to force her into grandeur or playfulness where it was her will to be sober. Neither is it to these leading circumstances of picturesque wonder, that our pleasurable emotions are confined. The luxuriance of the herbage is increasing with every year; the sides of the precipice are clothed with new sprung shoots, or rivers by the venerable trunk of some immemorial oak.

After having crossed the torrent at the bottom of its perpendicular fall, and exhausted the topics of contemplation on its brink, we may follow its steep declivity on the northern side, till it joins the main river. There was no walk marked out when Mr. Cumberland described it; but the path is now commodious, and the return is agreeably diversified, by committing ourselves to its direction. Indeed, the rocks, through which the brook cuts its way, are so grand, and so well adapted from their

quality of schistus, to receive the most varied and romantic shapes by attrition, that scarcely any part of the walk can be considered as more interesting. After descending a few paces, a resplendent little rill trickles down the rock above our heads, and contrasts its diminutive beauties with the large and lofty stature of the great cascade. The precipice on the other side, from having been our station, is become our object: the line of the path is obscured by height and distance, and intercepting herbage, where the rock relaxes its sterility, and yields by partial spots to the impregnation of heat and moisture. The scene is narrow and tortuous, lofty and overshadowed: a little fall at every angle fixes the foot, and enchains the ear and eye; the stream as it winds, is seen alternately and disappears: as we look down, the rugged bottom seems yawning to receive us; if we look back, the crag projects above our heads, the downward rush of the torrent threatens us with its deluge. At length the dingle joins the more extended valley; a long and steep descent of rude steps conducts us to the dam, artificially constructed for the purpose of irrigating the meadows. This dam forms a pool, into which falls a regular cascade of about 20 feet, while the precipitously inclined channel of the brook above, furnishes a succession of flashing eddies and whirlpools, cutting through rocks too prominent to be overleaped, or raging over trunks of decayed oaks, which have tumbled long ago athwart the bed of the stream. A piece of grazing ground, formed with due attention to picturesque inequality, renews our acquaintance with the impetuous Ystwith. After crossing it by the stone bridge, and again crossing the other mountain brook below the mill cascade, we decline into a sheltered walk, level with the river, leading to as unexpected a creation of fairy gaiety, as lies within the scope of the most sportive fancy. A gaudy flower garden, with its wreathing and fragrant plats bordered by shaven turf, with a smooth gravel walk carried round, is dropped, like an ornamental gem, among wild and towering rocks, in the very heart of boundless woods. Nothing can be more enveloped in solitude, nothing more beautiful or genial. The spot at present contains about two acres, swelling gently to meet the sun-beams, and teeming with every variety of shrub or flower.

But this delicious retreat has not yet arrived at its perfection. It is intended to enlarge it, by making the river the boundary; and it is still further to be ornamented by a Doric temple, from a design in Stuart's Athens. There is another flower-garden, of very different character, and still more singularly situated, to which strangers are never admitted. Almost behind the wall of the lower garden, there is a very grand rock, lofty and naked, standing alone in the midst of woods, too extensive for the eye to measure. This rock is an object from almost every part of the opposite hills. Its top is a natural platform, as if placed there for the purpose, on which is now erected a column to the memory of the late duke of Bedford, which forms a principal ornament of the place, as well from association, as from its site and execution. Behind this rock, the mountain rises higher, and is covered with the dwarfish growth, to which alone the ridges of these hills give birth. In the centre of the thicket is planted a flower-garden, so carefully sheltered and judiciously disposed, as to realise a paradise in the wilderness. The taste in which it is laid out, is not so studiously ornamental as that of the garden below; it aims at a coincidence with the peculiarities of its situation, and exhibits in a nursed state many of the most curious plants, which are the natural growth of high exposures in foreign climates. The moss-house gives a hermit-like air to the retirement; and the vase, which I left my friend Mr. Banks in the act of placing there, inscribed with a few lines from the muse of Mr. Rogers, to commemorate a domestic circumstance, will finish most happily the contemplative character

ter of the scene. [This I have since had the pleasure of seeing more than once; and it forms a most interesting circumstance.]

The cold bath is the only object to detain the attention in the sequestered path from the lower flower-garden to the lawn: but there are many other walks of large compass and extensive variety about the grounds, not to be explored in a single day. In particular the road towards Ysphyty-Ystwith, which I meant to have described, but have dwelt so long already on the picturesque beauties of this place, that I shall refer the reader for the rest to Mr. Cumberland's eloquent and successful "Attempt to describe Havod." I shall only just observe, that in tracing the principal walk, I have purposely taken the direction contrary to that of Mr. Cumberland. At another time, I trod in his steps, with his book in my hand, and found myself assisted by the accuracy as well as interested by the vivacity of his detail.

The house was built by Mr. Baldwyn of Bath in the Gothic, with pointed windows and pinnacles. It does much credit to the taste and talents of the architect. It is light and airy, though capacious, and avoids that appearance of over-building, which is so generally the fault of mansions that are shewn. Originally the offices were differently placed, but, being thought to press too forward into notice, were afterwards thrown into their present form. The arrangements have, indeed, undergone various changes; and the library has been added under Mr. Johnes's own direction. But the house itself, as Mr. Baldwyn planned it, has never been altered, nor could it be for the better. I have indeed heard it objected, that the rooms are not large enough; but that depends entirely on the object of the owner, which I take to have been rather elegance and comfort, than ostentatious magnificence.

The rooms which are submitted to the curiosity of strangers, consist of a hall, a music-room, summer and winter dining rooms, a library, and a drawing-room, each rich and appropriate in their ornaments, and furnished with specimens of art, not so numerous as tastefully selected.

There are in the hall two large pictures, by Hodges, representing the interview of Captain Cook with Otoo, and the landing at Eramango.

A favourite Newfoundland dog, by Opie; a favourite horse, by Gilpin; and a favourite spaniel, by the same painter.

A fruit-piece, by Michael Angelo Caravaggio. This must have been one of his earliest performances; for he began with such subjects, but afterwards devoted himself entirely to history and portraits.

Still life, by Roltracker in 1537, whose genius inclined him to such subjects, and carried him to as high a degree of excellence as the path he had chalked out to himself seemed to admit. The higher views of art, that now prevail, have considerably diminished the value of such pieces. Besides these are Sir Charles Hanbury Williams, a copy from Mengs; the portrait of a lady, both the artist and subject unknown; an antique bust of Iris, in red granite, and two tables of lava from Vesuvius; an antique statue of Ariadne, very beautiful, but the head is not its own. The drapery is admirable; and the grapes taken up in the folds afford an exquisite specimen of elegant design, and delicate execution. Bernieu's fountain in the piazza Navena at Rome; Derbyshire biscuit china; a fragment of the base of Pompey's column at Alexandria; and a petrefaction found in the old bed of the Nile, brought by Colonel James Lloyd of Mabus, on his return from the expedition from India to Egypt, and given by him to Mr. Johnes.

Over the chimney-piece in the music-room, is a holy family by Barocci. The religious subjects of this artist are peculiarly excellent. He attended equally to correct-

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ness of design, and harmony of colouring; but he did not lay himself out for the praise of original genius. He did not attempt to conceal that he imitated the best of his predecessors; and his models are easily to be distinguished.

Under this is Lord Chancellor Thurlow.—Copy, Gardner.

On the left hand is a portrait of Mr. Viganoni, by Pelegrini, a present from himself.

A ruined alchymist, by Salvator Rosa, possesses that wonderful force of expression which gives so rare a value to all his genuine works. The attitude and action of the principal figure in this piece unite individual character with all the propriety of general nature. The freedom of pencil, the spirit and fire of imagination, strongly mark it as the production of this master.

On the right hand is the portrait of Mr. Johnes of Lanfair, by Sir Godfrey Kneller, whose art called forth all the inveterate peculiarities, whether of intrinsic character, or temporary modes, which render his paintings contemporaneous chronicles of the times, with the lighter papers of that great describer Addison, but leave behind no general instruction, no topic of imitation to the professor. His wigs are most faithful and elaborate representations.

Under this is a view of the bridge of St. Maurienne, by Deane.

Between the doors is the assumption of the Virgin, by Bundetto Luti. This picture was a present from R. P. Knight, and had been an altar-piece at Lugano, where it was purchased. The works of this artist are much coveted for the tenderness and delicacy of their manner, the classical taste, if not the critical severity of their designing, and the mellow beauty of their tints.

The Elijah and the angel, by Rembrandt, is a curious picture. It has been said of this artist, that he painted himself in his works. He was a miller's son, and born in 1606. He began his career of fame and fortune at Amsterdam in the year 1630. His performances soon got into fashion, and his school increased daily. The literal copyist of whatever came before him, colouring was his great object. As he could scarcely read, he was very careless about the selection of his stories. The walls of his painting-room covered with old draperies, weapons, and grotesque armour, constituted the whole of his study; and these, with a chest of drawers full of old cloaths and other rubbish, he was accustomed to call his antiques. Yet was he not without a good collection of Italian prints and drawings; but they had no power of opening his eyes to his own defects. His manner is unfinished, and altogether unlike the nicety of his countrymen. His pictures are rough and disagreeable on a near inspection, but at once harmonious and forcible, when viewed at a convenient distance. If any spectator came too close to a newly-finished picture, he always turned him back, under the pretence that the smell of the colours would give him the head-ache. He was rather a mannerist, than an enlarged and philosophical studier of nature. Custom and education attached him to the manners of his own country. Yet was his genius fine, his expression exquisite, his stroke admirable, and his colouring beyond all rivalry. His lights were painted with an uncommonly thick body, but he perfectly understood the nature and property of his colours, so that he preserved them in all their freshness. He painted few historical subjects; and those few were, as in the instance before us, altogether inferior to his portraits. There was a vulgarity in his treatment. His forte was a simple topic, which required not the higher powers of composition. His heads of old men are executed with so laborious an exactness, as to represent even the hairs of the beard, and to make out minutely the very fur upon their caps. His earlier works were the most laboured: his enthusiasm evaporated

as his reputation increased; and he afterwards contented himself with the trade of an artist.

The sleeping Cupid is said to have been by Elizabeth Sirani, one of Guido's mistresses, and retouched by himself. I expressed a doubt in my first edition, whether she was old enough to have been either his mistress or his disciple. But the following passage from Heneickens "*Idée general d'une collection d'Estampes*," confirms the first mentioned by writers in general, though at variance with certain dates, which make her only four years old when Guido died. "*Il vaut bien la peine de former un volume des disciples du Guido, & principalement de ceux, qui ont imité dans la gravure leur maitre. Il y entrera : Simone Cantarai, dit il Pesarese, Domenico Maria Canati, Lorenzo Colli, Giovan Andrea Sirani, Elizabeth Sirani, and Flaminio Torre, tous peintres, qui ont gravé en meme tems.*" She is recorded as a memorable example of early genius. It is dangerous to possess merit in Italy. Elizabeth Sirani was poisoned.

At the end of the room is a descent from the cross, by Vandyke, very much in the style of his master, Rubens. The shoulder of the Magdalen in particular, and indeed all the fleshy parts, exhibit an understanding and practice of colouring, that prove him to have been a close observer of Titian, and no unworthy follower of the Venetian school. The child pointing at the wounds is an instance of that exquisitely natural expression, which none but the most accomplished pencils can attain. This is a picture that would do credit to any collection.

There are, at this end of the room, several other pictures; particularly two landscapes, by Berghem and Both. The rivalry between these masters was so close, that a Dutch burgomaster gave a commission to each, with the promise of a considerable premium, beyond the stipulated sum, to the artist, whose work should be adjudged the best. On a comparison of the pictures, the arbitrators were unable to decide; and their liberal employer presented each with a gratuity, equal to what he had designed for the victor. The latter was distinguished as Both of Italy, from his long abode in that country. He was a pupil of Abraham Bloemart, as was his brother Andrew, whom De Piles mistakenly calls Henry. The two brothers were inseparable, as well in the exercise of the pencil as in friendship, till an unhappy catastrophe befel one of them, who was drowned in a canal at Venice. John painted the landscape, and the figures were inserted by Andrew, yet so much were they influenced by the same genius, that the mixture of hands was not discernible; and they walked at no very awful distance behind the reputation of Claude Lorrain. The figures of Andrew Both were infinitely superior to those of Claude. After the fatal accident, the survivor left Italy, and retired to his own country.

Under the Vandyke, is a picture, distinguished by the title of Euc Houes. This wonderfully fine head is by Muralez, a Spanish painter, known in his own country under the surname of El Divino. This distinction might have been conferred either on the excellence of his painting, or the nature of his subject. The works of this master are little, if at all known in England.

In addition to these, are two views of Matavia Bay in Otaheite, and Fayal, one of the Azore islands, both by Hodges.

There are likewise two pictures by Claude. In the landscape of one he has introduced a view of Trajan's arch at Ancona. The other is a sea-piece. These are not in his best style, but they are believed to be genuine. This young pastry-cook, who could scarcely write his own name when he went to Italy with the humble view of exercising his talents on confectionary, might have disputed the palm of ignorance with Rembrandt; but both were well read in the rules of nature, without consulting any

any inferior author. His first attempts were in the service of Saffi, a pupil of Paul Bril. Claude Lorrain assisted him in preparing his colours. Saffi and Claude's elder brother John, an engraver of wood cuts, taught him a few principles of the art. He afterwards passed two years at Naples with Goffredi, who taught him landscape, architecture, and perspective. But on the whole he owed little of his ability to his masters. He succeeded very indifferently in figures, though he attended the drawing school daily during his residence at Rome, Lauri and Courtois frequently inserted them for him; but when he did them himself, he used to say jestingly, that he sold the landscape, and gave the figures into the bargain. He had no objection to rubbing out. His distances are admirable; and no man better practised a just and proportionate degradation in the tones of colours. He was indefatigable in observing the circumstances and accidents of nature in the sky, whether the rising or setting of the sun, rain, thunder-clouds, or any other striking effects. On his return home, he committed his observations to canvas, and treasured them as hints to be introduced into his regular works. Sandrart observes of his trees, that they appear to rustle, as if put in motion by the wind. Baldinucci has spoken highly of his knowledge in perspective: but critics in general have agreed, that this praise must be understood as confined to the aerial, and that he was by no means a perfect master of the lineal. The truth and freshness of his colouring, his aptitude in representing the time of day, and the varying appearances of light, are the leading features of his excellence. On the whole he has generally been considered as the most perfect model for landscape painters. Tables of verde antico, and alabastro antico, with corners of porphyry, a vase of Derbyshire spar, and a bust of Miss Rose, daughter of George Rose, Esq.; formerly of the Treasury, by Banks, make up the remaining ornaments of this elegant and classical room.

In the dining room, there is a family picture by Romney. The persons introduced are Mr. Mrs. and Miss Johnes, Major-General John Lewis, and Doctor Stevenson. The likenesses are correct and pleasing, and the story of the fortune-teller is sufficiently well managed; but the painting is watery and poor, and by no means fit to challenge competition with those masters, with whom its station in this house unavoidably brings it into comparison. Over one of the doors is a very fine unfinished head of Lord Thurlow, by Romney, after one sitting only; and over the other, a portrait of R. P. Knight, Esq.; by Webber.

The chimney-piece in this room is from the classical chissel of Banks. The heads of Socrates, Plato, Alcibiades, Sappho, and three other ancient worthies, form its principal ornament, and the draperies are remarkably well worked. Between the windows are busts of Lord Thurlow, by Rosi, and of the late Duke of Bedford, by Nol-lekens. The former is a faithful and characteristic portrait. The subject is a fine one, and has been finely treated, with the exception of one error, into which the artist has been betrayed by the proverbial eyebrows of the noble original. In his endeavours to lay hold of so remarkable a feature, he has succeeded in making them sufficiently heavy; but they are not worked like hair, and the heaviness is the heaviness of a solid lump, not that of a bushy excrescence. The likeness of the Duke of Bedford is correct but not animated.

In the Pefaro library, just fitted up for the reception of that valuable purchase, is the Elijah, by one of the very early Greek painters. This picture was given, on the reformation, by the abbot of Talley, in the county of Caermarthen, to that branch of Mr. Johnes's family which then resided at Dolecothy. How long it had been in possession of the monks at Talley is not known; but it has remained in this family ever

since.

since. It is undoubtedly a very great curiosity; though more to be valued as such, than for the merit of the performance. It has been attributed to some of those masters, who after the unfortunate extirpation of painting, revived it about the close of the thirteenth century. But there seems little doubt of its being half a century older, and that it may be referred to one of those Greek artists, who were invited to Florence, and inspired Cimabue, confined as were their own powers, with the ambition of restoring the art of painting. Considered as the attempt of that ignorant age, it reflects the highest credit on the ingenuity of its author. The best part of the piece is the compartment with the chariot. It possesses a considerable portion of elegance and freedom. The other pieces in this room are, a portrait of R. P. Knight, by Lawrence, and two drawings, by Miss Johnes. In the passage, removed out of the room, which is now the Pesaro library, are Herodias's daughter with John the Baptist's head, by Michael Angelo Caravaggio. The vale and cascатели of Tivoli, by Delaney. The temple is artificially introduced to heighten the effect. Its actual situation is in the vicinity of the town. The painter of the landscape is unknown.

In addition to these, there is a sketch by Vandyke, supposed to be designed for Lord Strafford. A view of Newcastle in Emlyn, by Ibbetson, which does no inadequate justice to that singular spot. The ruin is a fine subject, and has not been lost upon the artist. Another of Aberystwith, by the same artist; in which the dress and character of the Welch peasants are well preserved; and portraits of Robert Liston, Esq; T. Johnes, and a French courier, by Wickstead, and four small views of scenes within the grounds at Havod, by Jones, of whom some brief memoirs have already been given.

The anti-library has lately been completed. A staircase formerly occupied the area, which is now converted into a classical apartment, so that it occasioned an incommodious and unsightly access to one of the finest rooms in the kingdom. This anti-library is arranged in the form of a chapel, in which is placed some very curious painted glass. In the large window, there is an uncommonly fine portrait of the Cardinal de Bouillon, kneeling to his tutelary saint, which may with good reason be supposed to have been designed by Holbein, and burnt by Albert Durer, as were the other parts. The arms of this cardinal are blazoned on the covering of his kneeling desk. He was attached to Francis the First, but changed to the party of Charles the Fifth, who gave him the Archbishopric of Valencia, and the cardinal's hat. The painted glass in this room formerly belonged to a German convent, suppressed by the Emperor Joseph. The highest excellence of colouring in this branch of art is here attained, while the usual portion of accuracy in drawing, and fidelity in copying after the master, are far exceeded. The reception that Holbein met with in this country, was highly creditable to Henry VIII. and his court. The taste of the monarch was conspicuous in his patronage of the artist; and the liberality of Sir Thomas More, in parting with his valuable pictures to his master, for the sake of engaging that powerful protection, was not unkindly rewarded, when Henry returned the pictures, and declared himself satisfied with commanding the hand, that could paint their equals. There is only one other work of art in this room, which is a Cleopatra, by Guercino. His strong lights and shadows gave wonderful force to this as well as to most other of his pictures. He preferred the Venetian to the Roman school, and devoted his principal study to the attainment of excellence in colouring. There is a powerful and lively expression in this piece, which gives a value to the master, not only as a colourist, but as an imitator of nature.

The library is an octagon, with the light admitted from the dome. It is surrounded by a gallery, supported on pillars of variegated marble. These pillars are very magnificent, of the Doric order. The symmetry of this room would be perfect, if the pillars were not somewhat too large for their height. This circumstance arose from some error of measurement among the workmen, when the room was building. As it is, however, it reflects high credit on the owner of Havod, who was, in this instance, his own architect; and this library is the triumph of the place. It opens into a conservatory, 160 feet in length, filled with rare and curious exotics, with a walk down the centre. The doors are all pannelled with plate-glass; so that when the entrance door of the library is shut, and the communication open, the view from the end of the conservatory, through the library, into a seeming second conservatory, almost realizes the fictitious descriptions of enchantment. Nor is the first entrance into the library, with the paradise of rarities beyond, less striking.

Over the chimney in the library there is an ancient mosaic, dug up at Tivoli, near the villa Adriana. The subject is unknown, but supposed to have a reference to one of the Greek tragedies. On the mantle-piece are busts of Mrs. Johnes and Miss Johnes, by Banks.

In the conservatory there is a piece of sculpture, by Banks, which for classical design and delicacy of execution, would of itself place him among the purest followers of the ancient and best examples, if his fame had not long since been established on a firm foundation. The subject is, Thetis dipping Achilles in the river Styx. The figures are exquisite; and the monsters of the Styx, carried round the base, are poetically fancied, as well as ingeniously sculptured. The writer of this account is in possession of the original model. No casts have ever been made. There is at the extremity of the conservatory a mask by the same artist.

The drawing-room is completely furnished with Gobelin tapestry, of great beauty and brilliancy, and the whole furniture is in the French taste, to correspond with the hangings. This is the only room which affects splendour of decoration; and as peculiarly appropriated to the ladies, it is judiciously contrasted with the more sober style of the adjoining apartments. The colonnade front is occupied by another suit, which is never shewn to accidental visitors. In these rooms the same taste is preserved, and they are enriched with many ornaments and curiosities, in harmony with the pursuits of the occupier. Among the number are, a drawing of Augustus's bridge over the Nar, by Jacob More; two paintings done on wax, from the Vatican, by a Roman, and several coins; among the number, some of Sir Hugh Middleton's finest pieces, Roman rings, and other curiosities of antiquity, found in this part of Cardiganshire. Hogarth's Southwark fair is, however, the most rare and valuable gem in this little collection. The humours have never perhaps been more universally collected into one picture. This piece alone would have justified Lord Orford in characterizing Hogarth as a writer of comedy with a pencil. Its value is much enhanced by the circumstance, that many of the personages are undoubted portraits. The artist has borrowed the subject of his show-cloth from Laguerre. It represents the stage mutiny. Some light is thrown on the figures by the farcical ballad opera of the Stage Mutineers, or a Playhouse to be let, published in 1733, the year in which the picture of the Southwark fair was painted. The other show-cloth exhibits the Siege of Troy, composed by Settle, which was a great favorite at all the fairs. The figure on the rope is designed for Signor Violante, a celebrated vaulter in the reign of George I. The tall man on another

ther show-cloth was Maximilian, the Saxon giant. The man flying from the steeple was Cadman, who afterwards broke his neck in a similar experiment at Shrewsbury.

But it is time to refrain from the enumeration of particulars, and to take my leave of Havod with a sketch of its general character. In laying out the grounds, art has been no further consulted than to render nature accessible. Indeed, nature has in this country so obstinate a will of her own, that she would scarcely suffer a taste, the reverse of that so purely displayed, to interfere with her vagaries. There is one reflection, which is particularly pleasing at Havod. Notwithstanding all that has been done, the place is yet in its infancy. Most of the fine residences in England are finished, and many beginning to decay. But Havod, fifty years hence, will stand alone in grandeur, if the plans of its first former are not abandoned by its successors. What we now see is the fruit of only twenty years. In 1783, it was a wilderness. There was indeed an old house belonging to the family; but it was deserted as an untenable residence, and the very estate held of little account. In 1783 Mr. Johnes determined to settle here. In 1803, Havod was as I have described, and as the numerous friends of the owner can bear witness to having seen it. Hills planted by the very hands of the present inhabitants, have already risen into opulence of timber; other hills are covered with infant plantations of luxuriant promise; and more of the lofty waste is now marked out, to be called into usefulness and fertility, in a succession of useful autumns.

Larch trees have been very successful on these hills; but Mr. Johnes's attempts have not been confined to this species of timber only; he has engaged in an immense extent of general plantations, of which it would not be uninteresting to the practical agriculturist to give some brief account. From June 1796 to June 1797, four hundred thousand larches were planted, and very few of the plants failed. Besides these, in the same year, two hundred and fifty thousand other trees were planted, of which fifty thousand were alders, and the rest elm, beech, birch, ash, and mountain ash. They all thrive well, but the beech flourished more than any, except the larch. About ten thousand were planted to the acre. From October 1797 to October 1798, ten thousand oaks were planted, from one to two feet high; and from October 1798 to April 1799, fifty-five acres were set with acorns. In the same space of time in which the plantation of oaks was going forward, twenty-five thousand ash trees were planted, of which not more than five hundred died, and about four hundred thousand larch trees. The larches were all two years old seedlings, and were always planted on the upper parts of hills. The larches planted at the height of from eighteen inches to two feet in the year 1796, were from ten to thirteen feet high in 1802. The medium growth has been from twenty inches to two feet each year; but the shoots of one very favourable season were from two feet and a half to three feet, and in some instances three feet eight inches. The whole number of trees planted on the estate from October 1795 to April 1801, amounted to two millions and sixty-five thousand, of which one million two hundred thousand were larches, without including the land sown with acorns. But the system of planting is to be extended on a still larger scale, till nothing naked breaks in upon the scenery, except some rock, whose picturesque effect exempts it from obedience to the cultivator. Nor are these, great as they may justly be considered, the only improvements in progress. The general system of farming is pursued with spirit and judgment, and the dairy may be said to have been brought to perfection by collecting the different breeds of milch cows, and comparing their merits. The long established prejudice, that varieties of cheese cannot be produced on

the same land, is completely refuted by the experience of this dairy, which produces Parmesan, Stilton, Gloucester, Cheshire, and every other kind, so excellent in quality, and so exact in the imitation of shape and flavour, as to deceive the most accurate eye or palate. The crops of wheat, barley, rye, and potatoes, have been abundantly flourishing in favourable seasons, where it has been considered as madness to attempt their growth. Some even of the very high and exposed grounds have been brought into cultivation, and bid fair in the course of time to repay their labour and expense. The plan here pursued has been given to the public in a little pamphlet, entitled, "A Cardiganshire Landlord's Advice to his Tenants." More than forty cows have been imported from Holland, and are now naturalized among these mountains, besides Devon, Scotch, Guernsey, and most other breeds.

The number of labourers employed about the farm is very great, and their comfortable cottages, interspersed among the woods, with the houses of the bailiff and gardener aspiring even to elegance, convey more the idea of a flourishing colony, than of a private gentleman's residence. There are other besides agricultural institutions, of a nature scarcely to be expected in such a place. A printing press, with all the necessary materials for carrying on large and extensive works, is established in the grounds. Here Mr. Johnes printed his translation of Froissart, under his own immediate superintendence. A school for the gratuitous education of girls, has for some time been opened, under the direction of the respectable patroness; and it is proposed hereafter to establish another school for boys, on a liberal foundation. A surgeon and apothecary has an annual pension for his attendance on the cottagers of the estate; and there was at one time a dispensary for the whole neighbourhood once a fortnight at the house; but this, for some reasons of expedience, has been discontinued. With respect to the church, which has been so often mentioned, as giving a finish to the various prospects, it merits particular attention. There was before an old building, in very bad repair, serving as a chapel of ease to the mother church of Eglwys Newydd. It was first proposed that this ruinous chapel should be reinstated at the joint expence of the parish and the proprietor of Havod; but the patience of the latter could not accommodate itself to the delays and evident reluctance of the former. Wyatt gave a drawing, with which no fault can be found, except that perhaps the pinnacles are not sufficiently light and pointed; and the church rose into its present ornamental form without the assistance of the parish. It is attended every Sunday by the Havod family, their visitors, servants, and about two hundred of the neighbouring peasantry, comfortable in their appearance, decent and devout in their behaviour. The uniform and characteristic dress of the people has a peculiar and pleasing effect. The service is in Welch, and therefore not very edifying to the English part of the congregation. The interior of the church adds elegance to simplicity and cleanliness. There is already an altar-piece by Fufeli; and the large window in the family seat is to be filled with painted glass, of a similar quality and merit with that in the anti-library. It may well be supposed that the farm yards are all furnished with buildings and implements, the most novel, extensive, and complete. The farm has been entirely surrounded with stone walls, which though tremendously expensive, are absolutely necessary to the success of agricultural projects in this country. It has of late been a custom more entertaining than delicate, to take every opportunity of bringing the modes of private life before the tribunal of the public. On such a subject I shall content myself with observing generally, that the habits of this family are regular in themselves, paternal in the care of their dependents, and hospitable in the reception of their friends.—*Malkin's South Wales*, 1807, 2 vols. 8vo. II. 62.

A TOUR OF THE ISLE OF WIGHT, BY J. HASSEL, 1790*.

SECTION I.

BEFORE we proceed to give a particular account of the places we visited on this island, and the picturesque scenes that presented themselves, a general, but concise, description of it may not prove unacceptable to our readers.

The Isle of Wight was a part of the territories anciently inhabited by the Belgæ, and was brought under subjection to the Romans during the reign of the Emperor Claudian. By them it was called Vecta, or Vectis. It was afterwards conquered by Cerdic, king of the West Saxons, who peopled it with Jutes, a tribe that had accompanied the Saxons into England. Cadwallar, a succeeding king of the West Saxons, is said to have made himself master of it some time after, and to have massacred most of the inhabitants. Having undergone many other revolutions and invasions, it at length, together with the Islands of Jersey and Guernsey, was erected into a kingdom by king Henry the Sixth, and bestowed on Henry de Beauchamp, Duke of Warwick, whom he crowned the sovereign of it with his own hands; but the duke dying without issue, these islands lost their royalty, and again reverted to the crown.

It is situated opposite to the coast of Hampshire, from which it is divided by a channel, varying in breadth from two to seven miles. It constitutes a part of the county of Southampton, and is within the diocese of Winchester. Its greatest length, extending from east to west, is more than twenty miles; its breadth, from north to south, about thirteen; and above seventy miles in circumference. The form of it is somewhat of an irregular oval. Newport, the capital town, which is seated nearly in the centre of the island, is upwards of eighty miles distant from London.

The air in general is healthy, and the soil fertile. The north part affords excellent pasturage and meadow grounds, while the south is a fine corn country. A great number of sheep are likewise fed upon a ridge of mountains running through the middle of the island. Their wool, which is remarkable for its fineness, is a valuable article of trade to the inhabitants. Among the natural productions of this island, is the milk-white tobacco-pipe clay, of which large quantities are exported, and likewise a fine white sand, of which drinking-glasses, &c. are made. A more particular account of these will be given when we speak of the places where they are found.

Such is the purity of the air, the fertility of the soil, and the beauty and variety of its landscapes, that it has been often stiled *The Garden of England*. Parties of pleasure are on that account frequently made to it; but these excursions are generally confined to Carisbrooke Castle, the Needles, and a few other places: while it abounds with delightful scenes which recommend it to the attention of the artist. Of the principal of these we shall endeavour in the subsequent pages to give our readers some idea.

The craggy cliffs and rocks by which this island is encircled, form a natural fortification, particularly on the south-side. Sandown fort defends the only part which is left by nature open to the invasion of an enemy.

* From this interesting journey which embraces a part of the south of England, and is illustrated with beautiful plates in aquatinta, from drawings by the author, we have only extracted the portion relative to this delightful and celebrated isle. The plates alone will ever recommend the work itself to the reader of taste.

It is divided into two hundreds, separated by the river Medham or Medina, which gives name to them; they being called, according to their situation with respect to that river, East and West Medina. These hundreds contain three market towns, fifty-two parishes, and about twenty thousand inhabitants.

The morning after we had landed at Cowes, was not less beautiful than the preceding evening had been interesting. The first object which attracted our attention on the island, was Cowes Castle. It is a small stone building, with a semicircular battery, situated on the west-side of the river Medina. Opposite to it on the east side of the river was formerly another fort of the same kind; and when entire, they jointly protected the harbour; but the latter is now so totally demolished, that there is not the least vestige of it remaining. The castle at West Cowes was erected by Henry the Eighth; it is a plain building, with a platform before it, on which are mounted a few cannon. The works have lately been repaired by order of his grace the Duke of Richmond.

The best view of it is on the decline of the beach towards the bathing machines. Here the castle assumes another form, and shows the round tower with the distant battlement. A group of trees close the view in one point;—the opening of the opposite shore, among the trees, is agreeable and striking.

The town of West Cowes stands on a rising ground, at the mouth of the river Medina. Its appearance, when near it, much resembles Gravesend water-side; but the internal part is far more pleasant and commodious;—the streets however are narrow, and the town upon the whole indifferently built.

Cowes owes its origin and increase to its excellent harbour; where ships are not only secure from storms, but so happily situated, as to be able to turn out either to the eastward or westward, every tide. It is well peopled, and enjoys a good trade for the sale of provisions, especially in time of war, when large fleets of merchant ships often ride here for several weeks, waiting either for a wind or convoy. The inhabitants are in general genteel and polite, without being troublesomely ceremonious. Many gentlemen belonging to the navy, have seats adjoining to this town, amongst which are those of Captain Christian and Captain Baskerville. Mr. White has one here, and another on the banks of the Medina, called Fairlee.

East Cowes, which lies on the opposite point of land, has very desirable beauties with regard to its appearance and situation, together with convenience for families that is not exceeded at West Cowes; but it has not the same advantages with respect to bathing.

The fare from Cowes to Portsmouth and Southampton, as well for passengers as for their horses, carriages, &c. is settled by the corporation of Newport; by which means impositions, that might otherwise occur, are prevented.

The market is well supplied with fish from Torbay, and Southampton river; the former has the superiority for turbot, the latter for soles. Upon the whole, the accommodations at Cowes are equal to those of any other watering place, and much more reasonable. The town is enlarging, and from its pleasant vicinities attracts every year an increase of company.

From Mr. Lynn's cottage, at the top of the hill, a very extensive view sweeps the distance. Cowes lies in a bird's eye view, with the full prospect of the vessels in its road, and the opposite woody point. The hills of Ports-down are very distinctly seen; but from their remoteness, and the large body of water that lies between, we had not (except at times, when the ruffling wind caught in sudden patches on the water's surface) a sufficient interesting scene to describe, farther than as to its extensiveness.

The

The evening being clear, we set off for Newport. The road from Cowes to that place is equal in goodness to any in England. A hedge row hemmed us in on both sides, and prevented us from enjoying the prospects that surrounded us. A house at the extremity of Cowes, received its name of Birmingham, as the neighbours report, from the possessor of it paying his men with counterfeit half-pence.

On the road lies the village of Northwood, and to the left of it is Midham, the seat of Mr. Green.

The Forest of Alvington, King's Forest, or Parkhurst, by which names it is severally called, opens very picturesquely;—a bold range of hills, with St. Catherine for its crown, binds the distance. The lines of the hills are charmingly irregular, and blend into each other's sweeps.

On the left hand, the curve of the river takes an opening, and shines with reflections of the neighbouring shores. To the right, the grandeur of the hills gradually diminishes, and they are at length obscured by the promontories of the forest.

The general hospital of the island stands adjoining to the road, about half a mile before you reach Newport, where those who unfortunately are obliged to court the umbrage of its charitable walls, are treated with great humanity and attention.

The entrance to Newport is such as we generally find when a river meanders near it. A bridge is the principal object; but this is too contemptible in its appearance for a picture. Its usual companion, the busy mill, lies on the right hand of it. At St. Cross, on the left is the seat of Mr. Kirkpatrick.

The town of Newport is perhaps the pleasiest in this part of the kingdom. The houses are plain and neat; the streets uniform; and, except at the west end, all regularly paved. The church is also a conspicuous and leading feature to its neatness; but it is somewhat remarkable, that though belonging to so populous a place, it is only a chapel of ease annexed to the little village of Carisbrook.

Here are two assembly rooms, and a neat theatre, lately erected; together with a free grammar school which was built by public subscription; the school-room is fifty feet long, with convenient accommodations for the master.

Two markets are held here every week, in which great quantities of all sorts of grain and provisions are disposed of, not only for the use of the inhabitants, but for supplying the outward-bound ships, many of which, as before observed, touch at Cowes. When I mention the market, I must not forget to notice all the farmers' daughters who resort to it with the produce of their farms, and at once grace it with the charms of their persons, and the winning affability of their behaviour. There is not perhaps in the kingdom a place where so many lovely girls attend the market as at Newport; and, at the same time they are dressed with a degree of elegance far beyond what is usually observable in persons of their rank. You see them, with health and sprightliness in their looks, lightly dismount from their foresters, and conveying their baskets, each to her chair, tender their butter, eggs, and fowls to sale, with a graceful ease and complaisance, without making use of those arts that are generally practised to procure customers, or ever abating of the price they ask. On the two principal market days held here, viz. at Whitsuntide and Michaelmas, it is not uncommon to see thirty or forty of them all dressed in so genteel a style, and behaving with so much unaffected complaisance and dignity, that a stranger might be easily led to take them for persons of quality *en masquerade*. The appearance of these charming girls not only excited our wonder and admiration, but we found that they attracted the envy of all the farmers' daughters on the neighbouring coasts. The market house is in the middle of the town; and they have also a new market appropriated to the sale of corn.

The

The town of Newport is situated so nearly in the centre of the island, (the exact central spot lying not a mile to the southward of it,) that it is thereby rendered alike convenient to the inhabitants of every part. We could not acquire a minute account of the number of persons of both sexes resident in it, but the houses are supposed to amount to near 600—they are chiefly constructed of brick, and in general are not lofty.

Newport was incorporated by James the First, and is governed by a mayor, recorder, and 12 aldermen; who, I might say without flattery, are much more deserving the title of *gentlemen*, than some who have passed under our inspection since the commencement of our tour.

Few places afford better accommodations for genteel people, who may visit this island, either on parties of pleasure, or for the benefit of their health, than Newport. The desire of giving satisfaction seems to be the predominant feature of those who keep the principal inns; and by their civility and conveniences, they have of late years attracted much company.

SECTION II.

AS we purposed keeping the coast from Newtown, we crossed the country to that place. In our way we entered the forest of Alvington, and pursuing a tract (high road there was none) that inclined to the north-west, at length struck into a stony lane, where we had an excellent view of Carisbrook hills; whose mountainous appearance was relieved by a woody valley, that gently sloping from the forest brow, gradually dwindled into the dale.

Still pursuing our course through the stony lane, we passed a copse of oaks, where the mountains just mentioned received every flash of grandeur the solar rays could produce. The sea, on the right, now opened gradually, and afforded us transitory views of the mouth of Southampton river, of Lutterel's Folly, the entrance of Beaulieu river, St. Leonard's, and likewise of Lymington creek.

As we ascended these northern eminences, we had a view sufficiently extensive to perceive that a range of hills, or rather mountains, runs through the centre of the island. I think I may with some degree of exactness fix their commencement at Carisbrook Castle, as a valley opens between them, that takes a direct course from the most northern extremity, Cowes, to the foot of St. Catherine's.

These mountains sweep to the south west, and terminate their range a little beyond Calborne. Here another dale separates them from Afton downs, and the Yarmouth hills, which decline rather more to the westward. Freshwater-gate and Allumbay may be clearly discerned throughout the whole way, after you have passed the forest.

Alvington forest is almost entirely void of what generally gives the denomination of a forest to a tract of land; except a few pollard oaks, no trees of any consequence are to be seen upon it, till you skirt its borders; there indeed the oak luxuriantly intermixes with the ash and elm.

At the entrance of Newtown we met with one of those subjects so often touched by the pencil of Mr. Gainsborough; a cottage overshadowed with trees; while a glimmering light, just breaking through the branches, caught one corner of the stone and flint fabric, and forcibly expressed the conception of that great master. A few faggots, with a cart under a shed, formed the shadow part of the fore-ground; and the New Forest, rearing its leafy tenants above the proudly swelling waves, closed the distance.

From

From its name, we expected to have found Newtown, a town, or at least a large village; but were quite astonished when we saw that it consisted only of six or seven houses. Many circumstances, however, tend to support the conjecture, that it was once a place of much greater consideration. In the reign of King Richard the Second, it was burnt by the French, and soon after rebuilt.

Newtown-bay, or as it is sometimes named, Shalfleet-lake, makes its entrance about half a mile below the houses; but its opening wants the general accompaniments, wood and rock, to render it grand.—The banks are insipid, being devoid even of sufficient boldness.—The point meanly shrinks into the sea, without a shrub to court its stony flatness. From the frequent breaks that open through the wood, Hampshire was perfectly picturesque;—the sea, as a body, added fresh glows to the colouring, and pleasingly varied the landscape.

The corporation of Newton, (for small as it is, this place has to boast a corporation, consisting of a mayor and twelve burgesses, and sends two members to parliament,) annually meet at the town hall in order to chuse the magistrates for the year ensuing. The mansion in which this meeting is held has more to boast from its situation, than from its elegance as a building. The only things in it worthy of note for their antiquity are the mayoralty chair and table. The building is of stone, and contains three rooms, with a cellar and kitchen underneath. A flight of steps lead to the council-chamber, or hall.

Shalfleet-lake falls in agreeably at the foot of the hill; while the village and wood rise to the left, with the downs of Brixton in its distance. Saltern, and Hamsted point relieve the Fresh-water cliffs, and bind its land view to the eastward.—Here those who travel for pleasure should pursue the woody tract to the village of Shalfleet, where they will find at every avenue fresh beauties mantling to the view. A body of water is preserved by dams at the foot of the town, where a mill, entangled in the branches of its woody sides, is an agreeable object for the fore-ground.

On the side of a hill, well covered with trees, stands the town of Shalfleet. Little to excite curiosity is to be seen here except the church, which from some antiquity about it, appears to have been in the Gothic stile; but, like many of the churches in this island, it has been robbed of its antique windows, which gave an air of grandeur and solemnity to it, and *beautified* (as they term it) with modern casements. We have before censured this mode of beautification, and by this fresh instance are prompted to remark, that all those who view with pleasure the relics of Saxon and Gothic architecture still extant, must behold with disgust the awkward attempts of these good people to correct what Time has brought to that state of perfection most pleasing to the eye of a person of true taste.

Nothing further worthy of attention detaining us, we again made for the Yarmouth road; which having crossed, and left to the right, we bent our course towards Hamsted-woods. The gates we had to pass, as the roads chiefly lie through the farmers' grounds, were almost innumerable; and the soil principally consisting of clay and marle; in some places the roads were extremely bad. The land, however, is very productive, and is cultivated to the road's side.

The principal part of the land about Newtown, and extending to the spot we were travelling through, is the estate, as we were informed, of Sir Richard Worley. It is not deficient towards the north-west in woody scenes, but these are too thinly scattered to furnish a proper subject for a painter. The elms range too regularly to please, and the clumps are too formal to combine. Nor is the stiff appearance of the near hedge-

rows, which encircle the corn-fields, by any means grateful to the sight; on the contrary, so closely placed, they are highly disgusting. When it is possible to bring them properly into the focus of the eye, on the decline of a hill, or on a gentle rise, where they may blend into each other, then indeed they give peculiar pleasure.

From Hamsted we had the opposite view of Newtown; but so encompassed with trees, that little of the buildings were to be discerned. We had however a perfect view of Gurnet Point to the north-east; and of the town of Yarmouth, as well as of Hurst Castle opposite to it, on the south-west; while Lymington to the north-west perfected the picture.

From Hamsted we once more returned to the Yarmouth road, and entered it at Inwood Green. Mr. Barrington's seat to the left, with its surrounding woods, are in fine order; and gracefully fill the left hand scene.—At the entrance of the common we obtained the noblest view the island had as yet presented us. Had not the sea towards the Isle of Portland caused so large an opening, it had every appearance of a Westmoreland scene. The hills rose with all the majesty of the Skiddaw mountains; the valley produced a lake, with a lonely copse to ease its winding shores; while the downs of Afton falling to the more stately sweep of Fresh-water cliffs, close their boldness behind Fresh-water church. Nor were the Carisbrook hills less distinguishable; their irregular pile bringing in a proportion to the effect.

The valley was crowded with its usual inhabitants, various kinds of cattle, and launched into every extreme the voluptuous hand of Nature could bestow; the foliage of the fore-ground harmoniously displayed its glowing verdure, and enchanted the sight. Every hill brought its foot to the dale, and formed a fresh avenue for the winding stream.—The spire of Fresh-water, darting forth from its vernal attendants, caught the roving eye, and gave additional charms to the distance. Nature here seemed yet to be in embryo, and scarcely to have begun, what, in a few years, will excite in the mind of every sentimental beholder the highest pleasure and admiration. The scene behind it was not equally inviting: the point of land between Yarmouth town and Hamsted head broke up in the middle of it, and separated the mountains from the shores of the sea. Here Southampton water just crept in between the distances, and brought its woody range to the surface of the river. Yarmouth, which lay before us, did not appear so interesting as it ought to have done, from its lying quite flat in the point of view from which we saw it.

When we entered the town, we were not a little disappointed, but it was an agreeable disappointment. From its appearance at a distance, we expected to have seen a contemptible place; but, on the contrary, we found the buildings in general neat and clean, though rather low. They were mostly of stone, or whitewashed. If Yarmouth was paved, it would be little inferior to Newport in neatness.

Having often heard of Yarmouth castle, we went to see it; but how unlike a fortress! Scarcely any thing of strength appeared about it, and as little worthy of observation. The view from it was the only satisfaction we obtained by our visit, and that was far inferior to many scenes we had passed before.

The conveniences of Yarmouth are very great, both to its own inhabitants, and to those of the opposite shores. A passage-boat passes to and from Lymington every day, with accommodations both for passengers and horses. And the passage from one shore to the other being but from five to six miles across, it is thereby rendered reciprocally convenient to those who reside on the western parts of the island, and to the inhabitants of the lower parts of Hampshire and Dorsetshire.

The

The shores abound with a great variety of shells, which are not found in such quantities at any other part of the island. The fish on this coast are chiefly soles and other flat fish; and they are caught in such plenty, that they contribute greatly towards the support of the poor.

The borough of Yarmouth sends two members to parliament, and ranks as the third town in the island. It is likewise a corporate town, to which consequence it was raised by King James the First. The charter directs, that when a mayor is to be elected, the inquest by whom he is to be chosen, consisting of ten common council men and two commoners, shall be shut up in the town-hall, without provisions &c. till nine out of the twelve agree in the choice.

Its distance from Newport is ten miles; but the road for pleasurable travelling is the worst in the island. There are not less than 52 gates to be passed between the two places, which greatly adds to the irksomeness of it.

The river Yar presents a beautiful entrance, and takes a double course. The branch to the south-east passes the valley before described, and saunters up to Tapnell; a village situated at the bottom of Afton downs. The other branch forms a more considerable body, and seen from Fresh-water, appears as a lake, the hills meeting, and the shores projecting, so as to prevent the eye from perceiving its communication with the sea.

The opposite shores of Norton, which form the entrance of the river, are pleasingly diversified with broken grounds and groups of trees; and likewise with interposing cottage roofs that break the too regular clumps. It is navigable to the mills of Fresh-water, where the bridge preserves a sufficient body to add grandeur to the landscape, and allow scope for the pencil.

SECTION III.

HAVING refreshed our horses, we set out the same evening for Fresh-water Gate, taking the road that had brought us to Yarmouth from Linwood Green. We then struck into the first right-hand road, leading to the bridge that crosses the south-east course of the river.

Here the bridge became an object. From the hills adjoining to Yarmouth it is viewed to some advantage, but here it redoubled its harmony with the valley.—The sun was warm and declining.—The ivy that had helped to deface its sides, now brightened its appearance, and gave, as an atonement for its ravages, its friendly aid to bind the building, and variegate its general tints.—Nor did the hills in the distance diminish the splendor of the scene; a wood swept on the other side of the bridge from hill to hill, and formed a perfect amphitheatre.

The colouring was superb and rich; a glow of purple stained the distance, while the faint rays of the sun just caught the bridge, and glided along the tops of the wood. The side-screens lay, one in a half tint, the opposite one entirely in shadow; the whole blending so uniformly, that it had the most pleasing effect we had seen in any view during our whole route.

At the declension of the sun, especially in the month of September, the grandest effects of light and shade are observable. The movement of these rapturous transits of Nature are instantaneous; and if not closely observed, fly before the eye is half gratified. The colouring at this time is always chaste; and the length of the shadows from the mountains, in general confine the light to a principal object; which, if it does not as quickly strike the imagination as its motion is hasty, every beauty must inevitably be lost.

I am convinced that the remnants of light in an evening are much finer when the sun returns to the south, than when in the spring it approaches the northern hemisphere. Nor does it lose any of its lustre by setting where the ocean constitutes the horizon. In general its lights are clearer, and diffuse a greater variety of colours to the land; while the water babbling up in gentle waves, catches its rays, and gives us the very soul and spirit of *Claude's* master pieces.

The evening drawing on, we hastened towards the intended spot. Thoroughly surprised us when we entered it. From the maps of the island we had been led to expect that this parish contained a considerable village; but a few houses only presented themselves, and those surrounded by woods. Wilmingham is a pleasant spot, but nothing further.

From Afton we had a fresh view of the scene we had had from the entrance of Yarmouth. The cliff of Freshwater Gate rose with majestic grandeur, but from its chalky corner abruptly obtruded itself. The lines of Afton downs ranged beautifully; while the nobler ascent of the downs of Freshwater doubled their splendor; a gleam of light stole over the hills, and presented the woody vale with force and bloom. The fuzzy scrub that straggled on the surface of the mountains, was a great helpmate to soften their sides. The last, but not the least addition to this view, is the village on the opposite side of the water, whose reflections gave every different hue to heighten the study. We much regretted the want of a fore-ground, as nothing but a patch of ripe corn continually encountered the sight. Nor could we help wishing for a few of those scenes that presented themselves in the New Forest; some of its noble oaks would have fully completed the grandeur of the scene before us.

We now ascended Afton down, and for the first time had an uninterrupted view of the sea. The prospect was fine;—the evening was serene;—and the billows, as if forgetful of their usual boisterousness, seemed to be lulled to a state of tranquillity by the warblings of the feathered songsters in the neighbouring groves, whose little throats poured forth, in most melodious notes, their grateful transports to the Great Giver of their daily food.—To add solemnity to the scene, the fluttering sails of the surrounding vessels lay motionless; nor admitted even the gentlest breath of the zephyrs that wanted about them.

On the right lay the spot called Freshwater Gate, which, we were informed, derives its name from its being placed there to prevent the water of an adjacent spring from uniting with the sea. This derivation, however, does not seem to be very well grounded.

A cottage is the only habitation to be found here, but that cottage, which is kept by a publican, affords every accommodation a traveller can wish for; and frequent parties of pleasure are made to it.

The cliffs that form Freshwater-bay are very high, and when you look down from them, you find a degree of terror excited in the mind. Many parts of them, unable to withstand the constant ravages of the sea, have been washed down. On the left hand of the bay, two large masses of the cliffs have been torn from the sides, and have fallen perpendicularly into the water. In the bottom of one of these fragments, there is a large chasm, forming a perfect arch; the other appears to be still unhurt by the depredations of the spray.

From this spot St. Catherine's appears the most southern boundary of the island; and owing to the chalky cliffs which are about half way up its side, on a platform of green, is frequently taken for some ancient castle. The shore towards
it

it is rocky, and the cliffs exceedingly steep, with small tufts of grass growing on their sides.

But when we viewed the cave of Freshwater, we were lost in wonder at the direful effects of the raging foam. These cliffs measure, from the surface of the sea at low water to their top, near six hundred feet. The cave is a natural cavity in the bottom of the rocks, forming two arches. Those who visit it can only enter at low water. The insides of the arches are overgrown with moss and weeds, and serve as a fine contrast to the sea and cliffs. Several pieces of rock, which have fallen from the ascents, block up the passage into the cave at half tide. Among these, one in particular, much larger than the rest, rises some feet above high-water mark; the form of which I have particularly sketched, and it accompanies the annexed view of this romantic spot.

Stakes are fastened to the rocks, and others are placed on the shore, to which cords are fixed, that passing from stem to stern of the boats belonging to the place, prevent them from being beaten to pieces by the surf, or carried to sea when the wind blows hard. The bottom is a fine sand; and from the healthy situation of the spot, would be an excellent place to establish a bathing machine; but there being no houses near, a considerable objection may arise from that circumstance.

On this shore the naturalist will find numerous attractions for his scientific researches. A variety of fossils are impregnated with the rocky substance of the cliffs, together with native spars;—copperas stones are frequently thrown by the tide on the beach;—and pieces of iron ore, in its primitive state, are sometimes strewed along the shore. Veins of rocks, shooting from the cliffs, run to a length that cannot be ascertained, into the sea. At a distance they appear like water-pipes; and on examination, are found to consist in the middle of a vein of black rock, covered with an incrustation of iron. The shape of these veins is singular, but very regular, and pointed; they dart into the sea among the other rocks which form the entrance of the cave.

Several cavities appeared to be in the rocks as we viewed them towards the Needles, but none of them led to a subterraneous passage of any length. There are three or four at the bottom of the range called Main-Bench, but none equal to Freshwater-Cave.

Having made all the observations we could on this bay, and the night creeping on apace, we retired to the village; but not with any very sanguine hopes of meeting with agreeable accommodations. We, however, found such, as all those who are in pursuit of the beauties of Nature, and can feast on the delightful scenes she presents, will readily put up with. To such, a savoury rasher, a slice of brown bread, with a draught of home-brewed beer, is a feast; the humble pallet, a bed of down.

Wishing to view a sun rise on these hills, we rose by break of day; but so different are the morning and evening scenes of the island from those on the opposite shores, that it is scarcely to be credited, unless you narrowly watch every operation of Nature. We expected to have seen the sun burst from behind the eastern hills, and immediately scatter the dewy substances that fall in great profusion here; but instead of viewing his rays contending only with the morning vapours, as the day broke, a thick condensed cloud reared itself from the south-east, and continued to increase in its size, till it enveloped all the hills in a gloomy shade. Shortly after, a glimmering ray of light skirted the horizon, and diffused its beams to every point, but that in so weak and faint a manner

ner as was far from pleasing. From its earliest approach, at the dawning of the day, we had entertained hopes of seeing the sun gild the tops of the mountains with all its brilliance, and break with grandeur on the neighbouring copse; but in this we were disappointed. We were informed by the farmers resident here, that they scarcely ever knew the day break in this manner, with clouds accompanying the opening dawn, but that the ensuing day proved very hot. For once, however, they were mistaken: during this day the rain frequently descended on our heads in torrents.

Allum Bay was our route on the succeeding day; where our expectations were not in the least degree disappointed. In our way to it, several confined views, at the foot of the mountains, had much the same appearance as the Cumberland and Westmorland hills give to a picture — a stone-sided cottage, with one half of the roof slated, the other covered with a mossy thatch, surrounded by pleasing clumps of trees and projections of rocks from the overgrown ferny heath;—while a shattered gate bounds some nearly-ruined stony wall, that incloses a flock of sheep, and confines them upon the rugged steep.

Scenes of this kind frequently skirted the road's side till we reached the summit of the path that led to the warren. Here a new scene rushed upon us, as pleasing as it was picturesque. The declivities of the valley was a fine specimen of broken ground;—the burrows of the little inhabitants of the warren added relief to the rocks and verdure that adorned its sides;—and a mixture of gravel and marle, with here and there masses of white sand, contributed to the perfection that was visible to every discriminating eye;—while the Needles terminated the first sight, the isle of Portland composed the greatest distance.

As we descended the road, a horse, tied to a bush, obstructed our progress. Supposing it to belong to some visitor, like ourselves, of these picturesque scenes, who, finding the hill too steep, and the road too rugged, to ride down with safety, had dismounted and walked down, we followed the example he had set us:—but what was our surprize, when coming up with the owner of the horse, we recognised him to be my worthy friend, Mr. La Porte, a very ingenious artist!

Before our arrival, this gentleman had ransacked the spot; and did not hesitate to pronounce the sight equal to any he had ever seen, either in or out of the island we were upon. As from the nature of our plan, our specimens of this place must fall very short of the numberless beauties it exhibits, for a more extensive representation of them we will beg leave to refer our readers to the works of the before-mentioned artist; from whose chaste and correct pencil every beauty, justly and pleasingly delineated, may be expected; and from his rapturous exclamations when on the spot, we are not without hopes that the next exhibition at the Royal Academy will be graced with them.

The mountainous cliffs that form Allum Bay are terrific in the extreme; a huge angle of rock, shelving over your head, is the constant accompaniment of the heights; and many of them are near seven hundred feet from the surface of the sea at low water.

In these rocks the progressive operations of nature in their formation are easily discernible.—We found them to be composed of a regular gradation of substances, from a watery clay to a perfect and substantial petrefaction. The winter blasts, and incessant ravages of the sea, frequently hurl large tufts of earth from the stupendous heights to the strand beneath; and these, lying there immovable, gather from the undula-

undulations of the waves, small shells, fossils, and pieces of flint; till hardened by time, and the petrifying quality of the water, they become at length a perfect substance.

We broke several large clumps, which had undergone this transmutation, and found that they had attracted every marine production. In their primary state they appeared to have been chiefly clay, without any durability. Their second state was, when the water had thrown its floating weeds round their sides, and had just begun to attract the fossil particles and pieces of broken shells, which, entangling in the moss and segments, there remained, and contributed to their growing strength. In their third progression we found, that flint and spar had forced their way into their centre, and cemented the earth together, till, in the course of time, the water had petrified, and clothed them with copperas stones and iron ore for their outward coat. Their fourth and last stage was, where, the waves having washed them every tide, they plainly exhibited, on their outward appearance, all the foregoing substances entirely converted to hard solid rock. The minuteness with which we examined these stones left us not the least room to doubt but that salt water is possessed of the power to petrify, in a series of time, the softest and most dissoluble assemblage of earths.

The fine white sand before mentioned is found here, about a hundred feet above the surface of the beach, of a peculiar quality. The stratum lies between two others of clay. This sand is the only sort that is to be found in these kingdoms fit for making white glass; it is likewise used at Worcester for manufacturing china; nor will any other do for these uses. The miners employed in digging it informed us, that this vein, from repeated examinations, has been found to run entirely through, from the extremity of the point opposite to Yarmouth to the downs of Afton. It belongs to Mr. Urry, of Yarmouth, and the profit arising from it is very considerable. As often as the weather will permit, vessels lie in Allum Bay to load with it.—Here likewise is dug the tobacco pipe clay before spoken of.

The compositions of the soil which form these stupendous heights are of the greatest variety we ever meet with.—The bottom is a hard mixture of flint and chalk, whose durability is able to encounter any attacks but the ocean's fury. The next vein is a black softish mud, or watery clay, over which is an ochre of a bright cast. Here the sand-pits take their rise, whose stratum, measuring ten feet in depth, is situated on the hard plain floor of ochre before mentioned, having above it another vein of much the same quality. Over these we observed a variety of coloured clays and earths, some of which were of a perfect pink and green hue, with the interposition of chalk, flint, and mould, without distinction. In short, I scarcely think that any part of the kingdom produces, in so small a compass, such a mixture of soils.

The workmen are seldom able to continue working at the sand-pits longer than the month of October; sometimes not so long. In the winter, the sea, agitated by the violent south-west winds, which then generally blow, breaks into the pits, and, undermining the other heights, brings down the whole force of the mountain. When these crashes happen, they may be distinctly heard at the village of Fresh-water, though two miles distant.

This sufficiently accounts for the great quantities of rock that bind the shores. When they fall to the water's edge, every tide, as before observed, adds permanency to their substance. A little nearer to the chalky sides of Freshwater downs we still found greater cavities in the earth. The quantity of rain that in this part sweeps
along

along the downs, here finds a vent. The day being rainy and boisterous, we enjoyed peculiar satisfaction from viewing the ravages incessantly committed by it.—A bold stream issued from the top of the rocks, which joined several smaller ones about a quarter of the way down; where, violently bursting on the large clumps of iron ore from which the earth had been washed, they gave grandeur and beauty to the scene. When the torrents caused by the rain are very violent, they carry all before them from the heights, leaving their impregnations on the surface of the earth. Large masses, of a green colour, appeared on many of the points, which we supposed to have been caused by the quantity of copperas that lies on the rocks; and we likewise found several stones strongly infused with a tincture of that mineral.

Nor are these cliffs deficient in iron; several springs issue from the sides of them, which, in their passage to the sea, leave a sediment behind them tinged with it. A great quantity of iron ore lies along the beach, which, like the rocks before described, had received additional strength from having been exposed to the air and sea. Some of these we found as soft as clay, and many harder than the rocks themselves; for, on opposing their strength, the iron remained whole, while the rocks chipped in pieces.

These rocks and earths, when the water leaves them, appear very like the Glaciere mountains, in Switzerland; several hundred points shoot upwards, gradually decreasing in their circumference. We observed that the springs, even when not augmented by the rain, formed two or three cascades; and these, at the time we viewed them, were by no means contemptible ones. We thought them so interesting that we took the annexed view of them. But it must be observed, that as these scenes, from the before-mentioned devastations, alter every year, they may not perhaps be found exactly in the same position as when viewed by us. Whether they are or no, it is certain they will not be seen to less advantage, as every summer adds fresh, though transient beauties to them.

The time to see them in their greatest perfection must be while the sun is setting; his beams then giving additional force to every touch nature so wantonly sports with; as they stand at the close of the day directly in his focus.

We now passed along the beach, still nearer to the white borders of the Needles, where fresh objects enchanted our sight. A stupendous ascent, near five hundred feet in height, with another rather less, one of them of a perfect pink colour, the other of a bright ochre with its foot covered with the green sediment of copperas, had an appearance as wonderful as uncommon. So sudden a difference, though singular, must, when blended in a picture, produce a charming harmony. The only stiff object was the white cliffs; but the glare of these was rather alleviated by the weeds which hung down them, and the blue surface of the flints.

The point that extends to those fatal rocks, called the Needles, (which once, there is not the least room to doubt, formed the extremity of the land,) is near a quarter of a mile in length. From its sides flow several streams, but they are too small to form a body. The quality of the water of these streams is allowed, by several gentlemen who have analyzed it, to be very good. They are chiefly chalybeate; but one we tasted left the rancorous flavour of copperas behind. It was not, however, sufficient to affect the stomach. There is every probability that this long waste will in time become, like the Needles, a terror to seamen; but it will require many centuries to bring so grand an object to perfection.

As we returned, a number of small stones rattled down from the sides of the rocks, which we thought, at first, were thrown by some playfome boys who were above;

but

but we soon found it was occasioned by the sheep that were grazing on the very brink of the precipice, some of whom had even got below the edge, in order to pick up the herbs that skirt its brow.]

The only inhabitants of this dreadful promontory are gulls and puffings, who resort to it about the month of May, to breed, and leave it towards September. The country people resident in this part of the island are very dexterous in taking the eggs of these birds. This they do by means of an iron crow, which they fix into the ground on the top of the cliffs, and suspending themselves from it, in a basket fastened to a rope, they get at the nests.—A method not unlike that pursued by the gatherers of samphire, from the side of Dover Cliff, as described by Shakespeare, in his *King Lear* :

“——— Half way down
Hangs one that gathers samphire ;—dreadful trade !
Methinks, he seems no bigger than his head.”

As soon as the men get thus suspended, they halloo ; upon which the birds quit the holes wherein their eggs are deposited, and flying away, leave them a prey to the unfeeling plunderer. The eggs of these birds are found here in great plenty, and this is the only part of the coast where they build. Some of them make even the Needles a receptacle for their young. Strangers frequently buy these eggs through curiosity ; but they are seldom eaten, except by the country people who take them, and who likewise sometimes destroy the birds for the sake of their feathers, by knocking them down with sticks as they fly out of their holes.

The chief food of these birds is fish, which they take with extraordinary agility, picking them up as they skim along the surface of the sea. The puffing is a species of the seagull, differing from it only in colour, its heads and wings being promiscuously covered with brown spots.—Many gentlemen resort to these cliffs, in order to enjoy the amusement of shooting ; and as, upon hearing the report of the gun, several hundreds of the birds leave their holes at a time, and hover about, they generally find excellent sport.

At Lymington the Needles have a very pleasing appearance, not unlike that which St. Catherine's makes when seen from Freshwater gate. The singular effects that time has wrought on the beach of these celebrated rocks, was the last thing which engaged our attention.—The pebbles and flints lying on the surface of it, are perfectly smooth, from the repeated friction of the waves, and the force with which the sea dashes them against each other ; so that they appear exactly like a great number of marbles, only of a more considerable size. Here likewise many veins of iron, resembling water-pipes, like those at Freshwater gate, before described, launch a long way into the sea ; and, although the bottom is sandy, it requires a thorough knowledge of the coast to land clear of the rocky parts.

The weeds, called here by the country people dulse and tangle, grow and flourish on these rocks ; and they are likewise superbly touched with a bright yellow moss, which adds relief to the other tints that strew the shore. Allum is also found here, but in no great quantity, nor very good in its quality. From this circumstance we may suppose the bay to have received its name.

SECTION IV.

WE now left this place, but not without great regret, having received inexpressible pleasure from its tremendous grandeur; of which we have endeavoured to give our readers some idea in the annexed plate. Having mounted our horses, and being joined by the gentleman we had accidentally fallen in with, we set out with a design to ascend the downs of Freshwater; but missing the road, we attempted to climb the mountain. The slipperiness, however, of the grass, occasioned by the rain, and the steepness of its sides, prevented us from carrying this design into execution. We accordingly dismounted, and, with great difficulty, regained the road. And we would take this opportunity to caution all those who visit the Isle of Wight, not, in any part of it, to leave the beaten road, if they can possibly avoid it; for though the people of the country, who are not easily terrified at any intricacies, can readily find the nearest way from place to place over the downs, yet if you do not perceive a track to lead up the hill, you may be assured there is no passable road that way.

Having regaled ourselves at Freshwater gate, we again mounted the downs of Afton. From the extreme height of these plains, and of the adjacent ones, we generally found the summits of them barren, while the vallies are exceedingly fruitful; and where the hills are cultivated, and grain sown, from the almost continual north-east winds that sweep over them in the winter, and their being exposed to the scorching rays of the sun in the summer, (a contrast unfavourable to vegetation,) we often observed, that while a part of it was green, the rest was stunted and parched up. This difference in the ripeness, together with the smallness of the ear, even in its highest perfection, renders the cultivation of corn on these elevated spots very unprofitable, and not worthy of the farmer's attention.

They, however, afford a sweet and rich pasture for sheep, and some are kept upon them; yet not so many as there might be; nor is it in the power of argument to prevail on the farmers to extend so beneficial a branch. The sheep in these parts appear to be of the Dorsetshire breed—tall, and well fleeced; and the mutton is equal in goodness to any in Great Britain.

Wishing to keep as close to the sea shore as possible, we now made for Compton Chine; but met with nothing interesting till we crossed Compton Down; we then came to a small village, called Brook. The chine of Brook has a greater chasm to present than Compton; but even this did not come up to our expectations. The village of Brook lies in a recess formed by two mountains, which shelter it from the violence of the winds.

The places to which, in these parts, the name of *chine* is given, are breaks or chasms in the cliffs, which seem to have been occasioned by some violent eruption or infringement of the ocean. Through some of them we observed springs to flow.

From Brook we crossed to Mottiston; and in our way passed through a soil entirely different from any we had hitherto seen. For near two miles the surface of the road consisted of sand, perfectly red. Under this was a vein of white sand. And beneath that a great quantity of iron ore, intermixed with flint and chalk.

The variation of the soil in this island is beyond description. They may be truly termed the vagaries of nature; in which she sports with uncontrolled extravagance. Every year, to an observant and frequent visitor of the island, she presents something

new; and in every alteration she seems to be more luxuriant. To-day we find her thrusting forth some bold promontory into the sea, in order to check the impetuous waves, and afford the mariner an asylum from their fury. To-morrow, unmindful of the magnificence of her former work, she hurls the foaming wave against its stately side, and levels it with the humbler shore; and probably after having tumbled this precipice headlong down its craggy steep, she forms a rugged stony channel for some rapid torrent, produced by the heavy rains that so frequently annoy the western coasts of England; which rushing down its side, forms at once masses for the artist, and presents a pleasing sight to the curious spectator.

The hills of Yarmouth, as well as the vallies of Newtown and Shalfleet, were no longer visible, as we proceeded to Mottiston, being intercepted by the Brixton mountains, which, from their height, except directly in the road-way, are utterly impassable. The village of Mottiston is a very desirable spot, pleasantly situated, and commanding charming views of the sea. The church is antique, but almost robbed of its grandeur by the modern mode of beautifying we have so often censured.

About half a mile from the village, after we had left it, a scene presented itself that struck us with surprize and admiration. The village, behind us, which is almost surrounded by woods, just opened sufficient to present its church, spire, and entrance; together with an old house of stone, which the sun caught full upon;—the trees lying in shadow, formed the fore-ground;—while the distant cliffs of Fresh-water, Main Bench, and Scratchel's Bay, closed upon the verdure of the wood which surrounded the village, and brought it out; the relief was astonishing, and the sight peculiarly pleasing. The sea lay in shadow in the distance; and several vessels, with light glancing on their top-sails, finished the view.

Such scenes frequently encounter the eye here, but fall infinitely short when described, of what they are in reality. To pourtray them in their own glowing colours is not in the power of my pen or pencil; to point out such as are most striking, and to give a description as nearly adequate as possible, is the utmost I can do.

The downs of Brixton on our left often afforded fine back-grounds. A number of rocks start from the brows of the hills, the moss and grass charmingly blending on their surface. A few patches of white, occasioned by holes which the sheep had made to lie in, were rather disgusting to the sight. From the very great height of the rocks, the sheep that grazed on the brows of them appeared like dots of white; they, however, when they grouped, strongly heightened the effect. There was a littleness in the valley before us, occasioned by several aukward clumps of ill-grown trees, that broke the fine sweeps it took. The hill of St. Catherine's and Appuldurcombe terminated the view. Black Down also presented its loftiness, and added to the scene.

We left Pitt Place and Chilton Chine to the right, and passed on to Brixton, or, as it is called here, Brison. The corruption of this proper name renders it necessary for me to mention, that the names of places are not uncommonly corrupted in these parts. Nay, if you inquire the road to any place, calling it as it is usually written, the odds are considerably against you, but that they tell you there is no such place. Even the people of Newport indulge themselves in these liberties: so that unless you have a map with you to rectify their misnomers, you are very often at a loss how to proceed.

Brixton is one of the largest villages in this part of the island, and, in my opinion, one of the pleasanter. The road through it is clean, and kept in good order. It is conveniently situated, in point of distance, from the bay to which it gives name. The parish church belonging to it stands towards the skirts of the village; but this also has

had the iron hand of embellishment laid on it. A stream passes through this place, which takes its rise near Mottistown, and empties itself into the bay at Jackman's Chine. At the bottom of the village, as we coursed its sides, we observed this brook to widen, when it afforded a pleasing effect.

The inundation of the sea, completing what some eruption had begun, forms here a short declivity, overgrown with scrubby bushes. There is also a boat-house here, where several boats are kept in readiness to assist the unfortunate mariners, in case of shipwrecks, which are not unfrequent on this coast. The bay, as to its appearance, affords nothing very pleasing to the sight; every wave, however, that broke upon its beach, where there is a constant surf, brought a charm with it.

This surf we soon viewed in all its terrors; for the morning turning hazy, a storm commenced, which obliged us to take shelter in the boat-house. From hence we saw the sea, with its wonted fury, waging war with the more peaceable cliff; while the torrent, in wild career, rushing from the heights down the clay and stony steep, forced its way through the foaming billows, and tinged with its streams the borders of the bay.

After waiting an hour, by which time the storm was abated, we again set forward, with a determination to skirt the boundaries of the cliffs which lay nearest to the sea. Several recesses obtrude themselves on the land, but without producing that terrific effect we had frequently seen them do.

We swept round the Bay of Brixton, but received no very great pleasure from viewing its formal plains. On our left we observed Black Down to open, and present us with a view of Culver Cliffs, which lie at the eastern extremity of the island. The vallies throughout the island frequently form a curve round the foot of some dreadful precipice, and lead your sight to the most beautiful scenes. We were here gratified with one of these; which, disdaining all bounds, began its opening at Sandown, to the eastward, and turning round the foot of St. Catherine's, joined the vallies of Brixton and Chale, and from thence ran on to Fresh-water. Notwithstanding we were now on the lowest part of the island, we had a very plain and distinct view of its extremest bounds.

It may be necessary to remark, for the benefit of those who visit these parts, that, in going round this coast, great inconvenience attends keeping close to the sea; as the road over the downs is impassable for carriages, and even very troublesome to those on horseback; there being near fifty gates between Fresh-water gate and St. Catherine's, and those of the worst kind. In almost every field we were obliged to dismount, in order to cut the cords by which they were fastened, otherwise we should not have been able to have proceeded.

Continuing our route, we came to Barns Hole, which might properly be deemed a chine. As the operations of Nature in the formation of works of this kind admit of many hypotheses, I shall give my opinion of it with diffidence. Barns Hole is a vast chasm in the earth, fronting the sea, which extends a considerable way towards Brixton; and, as you enter it, inspires the mind with horror. The entrance has the appearance of leading to some subterraneous passage, which furnishes a retreat for a nest of robbers. The sides of it are four hundred feet high, measured from the water, and are coated on the outside with a dismal black earth, which confirms the terror impressed on the imagination by the first view of it. It is surrounded by a loathsome, unfruitful soil, and scarcely a shrub cares to cling to its steep ascents. A stream passes through it that empties itself into the sea.

The reflections that arose in our minds on viewing such a combination of striking effects, were, that they must have been occasioned by some great convulsion of Nature; who, being internally overloaded, discharged the extraneous matter by some terrible eruption. This supposition seems to be confirmed by the quantity of minerals, and the variety of soils, that are found about it. Several specimens of sulphurous matter, though not very strongly impregnated, lay on the shore.

SECTION V.

WE now made our way towards Atherfield Point, leaving the village of Atherfield, and also Kingstone, to the left. A great nobleness of valley extends all the way to Chale; but it is too much cultivated to afford an artist satisfaction.

Still continuing on the downs, we came to that point of Chale Bay which is called Atherfield Point, traversing nearly the same kind of soil and country we had hitherto done. The hills of St. Catherine began now to form a noble appearance. At Fresh-water, as we observed before, they looked like castles; here they appeared like fortresses of great strength. From the regular breaks in the rocks, and these being not unlike gun-ports, or embrasures, they might, about twilight, be easily mistaken for such.

Its heights are grand and picturesque, and they clearly prove that this island, with regard to its formation, has every advantage; for where the sea would, from the part being most exposed to its fury, have committed a breach, the land, boldly rising, protects it from every inundation. And, if we may judge from what the inhabitants say of it, the Isle of Wight has scarcely its equal in the world. Its land (say they) is fertile; its husbandmen industrious; its females prolific; its hills a sure protection from the devastations of the sea; its coasts too rocky to admit the approach of an enemy; and, above all, its inhabitants chearful, good tempered, and hospitable; all uniting in the wish and endeavour to render their island attractive in every respect to strangers.

I must here remark, that the parts of the island we were before speaking of, are so unlike the eastern shores, in point of appearance, that was a person to be suddenly transported from one part to the other, I am of opinion he would scarcely believe he were upon the same island.

We now passed Walpan Chine, and another small infringement of the ocean, where are a few huts belonging to some boatmen and fishermen, which severely feel the ravaging effects of the sea. About the middle of Chale Bay, on the top of the cliffs, there stands a house, which appears to have been erected for the reception of travellers; but at the time we passed it, it was locked up, so that we could procure no refreshment.

We now arrived at one of those cavities before described, called Black-Gang Chine, which we were informed received its name from a gang of pirates who formerly made it their place of residence; and its appearance seems fully to confirm this supposition; for it is far more dreadful to behold than those mentioned in the foregoing sections. The size of the chasm, and its tremendous shelving rocks, cannot fail of inspiring the mind with horror. The imagination, while viewing it, may almost lead the inquisitive traveller to fancy that the earth had just opened her horrid jaws, and from the very spot on which he then stood, had entombed in her bowels some unwary traveller, who, like himself, was prying into the wonderful operations of Nature.—I never beheld so awful a sight as these ponderous steeps exhibit. The sides of the chasm, which are
little

little short of five hundred feet high, are shelving, and many parts of the top are over-spread with shrubs.

On its summit a spring takes its rise, and winds slowly down to the sea. The slowness of its course prevents it from proving detrimental to the cliffs. The water issuing from this spring is of a peculiar nature. It acts as a gentle aperient. When first poured into a bottle, it is as clear as crystal; but after remaining in it some time, a very considerable sediment appears at the bottom. We separated some of this sediment, and found it to contain particles of iron ore, which emitted a sulphurous smell. Several copperas stones lay about, especially in the streams proceeding from the springs, which seemed to be in their native state. Some specimens of rock allum were likewise strewn around, but not in the same profusion as at Allum Bay.

Many ships have fatally experienced the destructive effects of the rocks that line Chale Bay.—They just lurk underneath the surface of the water, and, in conjunction with the Cape of Rocken End, occasion very heavy swells, especially if the wind be southerly. When the tide runs strong, and the wind is south-west, if a vessel is not far enough to the southward to weather the point of St. Catherine's, she is sure to be upon the rocks. It is still within the remembrance of many, that, during one tempestuous night, not less than fourteen sail met their fate in this dangerous bay: and scarcely a winter passes but what accidents of the same kind happen. But as for some years past boats have been kept in readiness, and men are constantly attending to afford every assistance upon such occasions, many lives have been preserved.

We are sorry, however, to be obliged to add, that the savage custom of plundering wrecks, and stripping the dead, whenever these accidents happen, too much prevails among the country people resident on the western coast. Deaf to the calls of humanity, these unfeeling wretches hear with unconcern the cries of the shipwrecked mariner, struggling with the boisterous waves; or see the beautiful corpse of some fair passenger lying lifeless on the beach, perhaps still pressing a beloved infant to her bosom. Intent only on securing their ill-got property, they cannot bestow a thought on the unfortunate; nor will one among them suffer a tender sensation to make its way to his heart.

To procure a restoration of the property thus inhumanly obtained, or to bring these lawless plunderers to justice, is equally impracticable; as every one shares in the plunder, it is the interest of every individual to unite in concealing or defending it.

The salvage usually allowed for saving merchandize from ships wrecked, may sometimes be thought worth attention, and be the means of protecting it from avaricious depredators; but as it is seldom that any emolument arises from the preservation of lives, little attention is in general paid to that point. Were a premium to be offered by government for every person preserved from a shipwrecked vessel, and a medal, as a badge of distinction, added to it by some great personage; or was a society to be established for the promotion of so benevolent a purpose; many that now perish for want of needful assistance, might be restored to usefulness and society.

It has been known that the most daring exertions on these occasions have met with a very inadequate recompence.—An instance of this kind is still talked of in the Isle of Wight. At the time the *Juno*, a Dutch frigate, was lost on this coast, a smuggler, with four other persons, ventured out to her assistance, notwithstanding they were in the extremest danger from the violence of the surf, which every instant made its way over the boat. They, however, at length gained the ship, and brought off, and safely landed the whole of the crew, except three persons, who were washed off the raft.

And

And for a deed which British seamen alone could have accomplished;—a deed worthy of the highest praise, and the most ample remuneration;—the only recompence they received, was a paltry ten pound bank note.—Can we wonder then that such exertions are not more frequently heard of?

We could not pass the fatal spot where so many brave seamen, the support and glory of this commercial kingdom, find an untimely grave, without heaving a sigh; and, at the same time indulging a wish that some method may be devised to prevent every avoidable decrease of so valuable a body of men.

Leaving this gloomy track, we proceeded to the village of Chale, which lies about a mile to the left of the Chine, and is but a small and irregular place. The church, which was founded during the reign of Henry the First, is, in the tower part, very much like that of Carisbrook, but not so large.

As you ascend the hill beyond it, looking back, the valley toward Freshwater appears very extensive;—Brixton down binds the right-hand screens;—the ocean diminishes to the left;—while the cliffs at the Needles close the land view, and in some degree soften the formal valley. Too great a number of unpleasing lines range down the dale, which throws a stiffness over it.

The people of the island call it a garden; and so it really is; but in too great a degree to please an amateur of the true picturesque. This part of the island, as to its appearance, differs very much from the northern part, which is occasioned by a want of wood to give a variegation to its colours. A sameness runs through the whole, the downs of Brixton excepted, which in some parts are scrubby, with broken ground; but in this not equal to what we afterwards saw on the east side of St. Catherine's.

From Chale we mounted St. Catherine's Hill, which we found far steeper than any we had hitherto met with; and nearly the whole way was not very safe for a horse. The road lies on the side of a precipice, at least three hundred feet high, and tremendous to look down; the opposite side is bounded by a bank. After some difficulty we at length attained its summit.

This hill is said to be the highest in the island; but whether it is so we will not take upon ourselves to say; as, after frequent experiments, such as comparing it with the appearance of the other hills, we still remained in doubt.

Stories are told by the inhabitants of the parish of Chale, of the sinking of Week down, which lies about three miles off, in the intermediate way between St. Catherine's and Shanklin down. They say, that formerly Shanklin down, through the interference of Week down, could only be seen from St. Catherine's; whereas now it is visible from Chale down; consequently either Week down must have sunk considerably, or Shanklin down must have increased its altitude. And some of the old people tell you that this has partly happened within their own remembrance. So wonderful are the operations of Nature, that it is not for man to say, "It cannot be;" but this is an event so far out of her usual course, that I own I could not readily give credit to it.

On the top of St. Catherine's is a light-house and a beacon, neither of which are now used. The tower serves, in the day-time, for an excellent land-mark; it being near eight hundred feet above the level of the sea at low water. A small part of the chapel is remaining; it is in form an octagon, and by some called the hermitage, from the circumstance of a priest's having formerly immured himself in it from the world.

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As we examined the inside of this place of holy retirement, the story of Dr. Goldsmith's Hermit instantly occurred to our remembrance, and impressed itself on our minds. The hearth whereon he had once trimmed the cheerful embers; the wicket; and many other circumstances, led us to fancy, that this might have been the spot where Edwin had taken up his abode; and that the pleasing tale owed its birth to the Hermitage of St. Catherine's. The wilderness alone was wanting to complete the imagined scene.

The views from the hill are very extensive, and likewise reminded us of that elegant and natural poet who, in his "Traveller," from among the Alpine solitudes looks down, and thus exclaims:

"Ye glittering towns, with wealth and splendor crown'd,
Ye fields, where summer spreads profusion round,
Ye lakes, whose vessels catch the busy gale,
Ye bending swains, that dress the flow'ry vale,
For me your tributary stores combine;
Creation's tenant, all the world is mine."

We had from hence a complete view round the island, except in one point, which was interrupted by the downs of Brixton, these lying too near the sight.—To the west, the islands of Purbec and Portland were very distinguishable;—the land towards Lymington seemed almost to join the island; a small part of the channel by which it is separated being visible, but barely sufficient to let you see what it was;—the New Forest reared its oaks on the hills, and ranged to the mouth of Hampton water;—the point towards Monckton fort was perfectly conspicuous, and the hills of Portsdown closed its extent;—we could also see land at a very great distance to the eastward; and it is affirmed by some, that the point which forms the bay of Brighton, is to be perceived from hence.

The Culver cliffs bound another valley, which, as before observed, joins Brixton dale. The woody descents of Ride seemed to slope gradually to the water's edge, and softened the harsher lines of the mountains.

On the side of the hill of St. Catherine's that lies towards the sea, the descent is quite perpendicular, till interrupted by a small flat green of no considerable width, when it again descends in the same abrupt manner, to the water's edge. The river Medina takes its rise at the foot of this hill, and after passing through Newport, empties itself into the sea at Cowes. The sources from whence the river originates, are secured by this hill from any inundation of the sea; which the inhabitants say was never known to happen on any part of their coasts, except during the winter months, in a small degree at Gurnet bay.

When we descended the hill, an odd circumstance attracted our notice, which though trivial in itself, we mention, as it may appear as singular to our readers as it did to us. It being harvest time, a cheerfulness and jollity seemed to prevail at a farm-house we passed at the bottom of the hill, which did not extend to the whole of the inhabitants; for we observed that a fine game cock and his feathered mate walked about in a melancholy mood. Instead of "proudly strutting before his dame to the stack, or the barn door," as the cock described by Milton did, poor Chanticleer went slowly on, with a large piece of flat stick fastened to his breast, followed by his solitary companion, dame Partlet, who had a clog tied to her leg, of the same kind as those fixed on the legs of horses, though not so large. And this was done we found to prevent their entering the

the fields, and committing depredations on the newly reaped corn. We soon after saw several others hampered nearly in the same manner.—A sight at once so droll and so novel, afforded us no little entertainment.

From St. Catherine's we crossed the common fields to Niton, which is frequently termed Crab Niton, from the great number of crabs found on that coast. The want of a good road to this village makes the visiting it very inconvenient to travellers. The soil here is of a different nature from what we had hitherto passed; it appeared to consist of a fine mould, without any mixture of its favourite accompaniment, chalk.

From the top of St. Catherine's this village presents itself as one of the nearest; Godfil, Brixton, Mottistun, Chale, Kingston, and several others are also within sight.

The village of Niton has nothing of novelty to attract attention, nor has it even pleasantness of situation to boast; it being entirely immured between two hills, so that there is neither a view of the sea, nor a good land prospect to be had from it. There is a neat brick house in it, belonging to the Rev. Mr. Barwis, which is the only one worthy of notice; all the rest are cottages, intermixed with a few farm-houses.

From hence we took the right-hand road to Buddle; where a part of the cliffs break up, and form the commencement of those called Under Cliff. The appearance of this immense pile of rocks is noble, picturesque, and grand; and so spacious are they, that the downs of Chale are supported by them. All the broken rocky parts, which have been separated from the main body, are overgrown with shrubs, and sweetly soften their rugged texture. Several cottages rear their heads from among the bushes, and, by contrasting art with nature in its rudest state, show to great advantage the romantic face of the latter.

This point affords a great variety of objects:—a clump of bushes frequently relieves a piece of rock, which, as if ashamed to shew itself; hides the greatest part of its grandeur in a bed of moss, or clay. Here, as just observed, the commencement of Under Cliff, towards Steep-hill, or Steeple, as it is commonly called, takes place. And the name of Under Cliff is not improperly given to it; as a huge precipice, of a very considerable height, hung shelving on our left-hand for many miles. In some places it was at least five hundred feet from the level of the sea; in others not quite so much.

SECTION VI.

NEAR Niton we received so cordial and hospitable a reception from a farmer residing there, that to pass it unnoticed would argue at once a want of gratitude and sensibility.—It was one of those delicious moments that a heart set in unison with Sterne's, could alone fully enjoy—the pen of Sterne alone truly describe.—The power of obliging seemed to make happy;—the eyes of our kind host sparkled with pleasure when we partook of the refreshment set before us;—nor could our most earnest entreaties prevail on him to remit his assiduities. We found in this humble shed the plenty of a palace, without its irksome pomp and parade. All here was ease, content, and happiness.—Happy in himself, and happy in his connections, care has not spread a wrinkle over the brow of our beneficent entertainer.—His countenance spoke a heart serene and placid, from a consciousness of its own benignity. The at-

tentive parent and the fond father also betrayed itself in every word.—“My children,” cried he, in enumerating his comforts, “I consider as one of the greatest of the blessings heaven has bestowed me; without them life would be insupportable.” Speaking afterwards of his situation, he said, “Envy never entered this mansion.—I covet not wealth;—the little I have I lie down contented with, and rise in the morning full of gratitude to the Great Giver; nor do I know a greater pleasure than in sharing that little with others.” As the worthy man said this, the tear of sensibility started to his eye, and communicated to those of my friend, whose hand he had squeezed during this pious impromptu; and I could perceive a sympathetic drop steal down his cheek also. “My God!” exclaimed my friend, casting a look towards the farmer’s wife and children, “this is, indeed”—Here he stopped, and, turning, left the room. How did my heart also vibrate at the affecting scene!—But to return.

Having taken leave of the worthy farmer, with every expression of gratitude our lips could utter, we left his hospitable mansion, and proceeded to Steep Hill. The afternoon was, beyond description, enchanting; the scenes delightful; and every thing tended to keep alive that gentle flame of benevolent sensibility which the foregoing incident had just lighted up in our bosoms.

The great hand of Nature seems to have judiciously selected this spot for exhibiting one of her grandest strokes. The entrance to the cliff is from the road, which was apparently forced over rugged steep, that would otherwise have been impassable. A grand burst broke on our left, its heights pleasingly variegated by clinging shrubs. On the opposite side of the road lay a huge mass of rock, that had fallen from some overloaded eminence, and which served as a counterpart in the fore-ground. Many others obstructed the labour of the husbandman, and contributed to enrich the subject.

A ray of light crept imperceptibly on the rocks to our left.—The effect was soft, but not equal to what a stronger light would have produced. Transits of light and shade are continually straying over these heights, which, when caught by the eye, sudden as the effect is, cannot fail to impress the mind with ideas of grandeur; and though the pencil might not be able to touch these transitions, the mind is not the less convinced of their efficacy.

For nobleness of fore-grounds, I am of opinion, this spot is not to be exceeded, if equalled, in England. The rocks in general are finely tinted, and lie in masses extremely large; nor does the foliage fall short of its other beauties. In this part, nurtured by the southerly wind, vegetation is most luxuriant. A vernal-green ash, spreading its branches to the way-worn road, is often seen entwining its charms with the stately oak, each adding grace to the other’s grandeur.

The vegetative effect which the southerly wind has on the trees, shrubs, and plants of this island, is worthy of remark. Long before any of them arrive at maturity, through the prevalence of the wind from this point, they all incline towards the north, nodding their stately heads, as if they set the chilling blasts of Boreas at defiance. In the vallies, where they are sheltered by the surrounding hills from every pernicious blast, they thrive with an astonishing degree of luxuriance.—This observation may seem to favour of exaggeration; but so far from it, that no description it is in the power of my pen to give, can come up to the picturesque beauties these spots afford, or convey an adequate idea of the rapturous hours I have passed in contemplating them.

The road to St. Lawrence is through the same mysterious tracts of rocks; but it is kept in such good repair, that a carriage may pass with great safety. Except here and there a small clump of trees, with a homely farm sheltering itself in them, nothing further worth attention strikes the traveller till you approach that village.

The extension from the cliffs to the sea-shore, is here above half a mile broad, and possessed, if possible, of far more grandeur than those we had already passed. Several huts skirted the road; but we did not observe a house of any size or consideration near it. The church of St. Lawrence is perhaps the smallest at present standing in any of the dioceses of England; with a stick of a moderate length you may reach to nearly two-thirds its height at the west gable end. From the size of the parish, the usual congregation cannot consist of more than twenty people, and even those must sit very close, I should imagine, to find room.

Having frequently heard of a waterfall at this place, we had pleased ourselves with the hope of seeing a grand display of Nature; but were not a little surprised to find it nothing more than the water of a spring in the village babbling over a few stones.—It is almost too inconsiderable to be noticed.

As soon as we had viewed this celebrated waterfall, we returned to the road, and took a view of the village, which is small and straggling. The road from Whitwell enters the cliffs here, and joins the other road in the village.—Great pains appear to have been taken to render it passable; nor have these pains been unattended with success;—it exceeds the most sanguine expectations that could have been formed of it, when first undertaken.

There are many things in nature which not only appear incomprehensible to a casual observer, but which cannot always be accounted for by the naturalist.—Of this we met with an instance here. We could not help surveying, with a wonder bordering on astonishment, the sheep that had got over the edges of the craggy precipices, from the downs they grazed on, and lay in the hollows of the rocks, in order to shelter themselves from the heat;—we even observed their bleating young ones carefully to descend, and reach their dams in safety.—How, thus fearless of danger, they leave the plains, and venture on those hazardous declivities, where the least false step must be attended with destruction, is, we believe beyond the comprehension of the most sagacious naturalist.—So extraordinary did it appear to us, that nothing but ocular demonstration could have convinced us of the truth of it.—The account received from a peasant, had we not seen their situation, would have met with but little credit from us.

A phenomenon of another nature, but not less singular, presented itself to us here. When we sat out from Knowle a storm seemed to be pending in the horizon; and by the time we had reached St. Lawrence, we heard several claps of thunder. As every incident which tended to produce picturesque effects instantly attracted our attention, we cast our eyes towards the sea, in order to observe whether any alteration had taken place on its smooth surface; when, to our great surprise, we plainly perceived a vessel, within eight miles of the shore, labouring under the effects of the storm, and apparently in the greatest distress. And what was extremely striking was, that though the sea where the vessel happened to be, rolled (as it is commonly termed) mountains high, yet not a breath of that air which was there so tempestuous, ruffled the water on the beach beneath us.—An operation of nature that had never before fallen under our inspection; and we greatly regretted not having with us some ingenious painter, in the marine line, to take an exact representation of it.

A light, rendered more bright by the contrast, had spread itself round the electric cloud, which was thus venting its rage upon the helpless ship, and rendered the scene more gloomy. By a glass, we could perceive that she laboured much under the violence of the storm, and every wave came full fraught with danger. For near an hour did the tempest permit us to behold its raging at a distance; but at length a brisk wind springing up, it made its way towards us, and we should have shared in its "pitiless peltings," had we not retired to a neighbouring cottage, where we continued till it had passed on.

Having returned the owner of the cottage to which we had retired, our thanks for the kind attention shewn us, we once more mounted our horses, and had from hence the completest view of Undercliff, towards Bonchurch, that any part affords. The house of the Honourable Wilbraham Tollemache appears full in sight.

The view from hence is too confused for all the parts of it to be contracted into a landscape; but for the sight, it has every gratification the warmest imagination can wish. The numbers of the rocks, and the uninterrupted verdure twining round them, with large masses of broken ground, compose a scene superb in the extreme.

The rain, which had just ceased, had left its spangles on the bladed grass, faint imitation of the crystal drop gently stealing down the cheeks of beauty; and as the softest emotions of pity are excited in the manly breast by these, so did those add new charms to the verdure of the cliffs.

Every plant and shrub was clad in its gayest vest, and nature seemed to be adorned with her liveliest smiles, and to breathe forth her sweetest fragrance.—A briar had courted the embraces of the everlasting ivy; the season had just tipped their leaves with the remembrance of September, but no more than added lustre to the union. A few ashes hung vibrating from the precipice, bedecked with all the bloom that summer could bestow upon them. While the humble thatch of the scattered cottages, befriended by the downy moss, glared in the brightest yellow; which but tended to soften the mellower tints of the surrounding plants. In short, the scene exhibited a profusion of charms.

To this the declining rays of the sun did not a little contribute; every shrub or plant on which they glanced, when gently moved by the passing zephyr, seemed to bow their heads in grateful acknowledgement to the great source of vegetation.

The road still continued over the rocky ascents of these cheerful hills. To give an exact representation of all the scenes we passed, is not in our power;—suffice it to say, that they are pleasingly irregular.—Every hundred paces, though on such elevated ground, lead up a fresh hill, or else skirt the descent with a sloping flowery orchard.

The evening had beamed forth its last rays on Steep-hill Cottage, as we passed its elevation; and lulling all nature to repose, rendered it necessary for us to seek an asylum for the night.

SECTION VII.

GREAT as the pleasures were which we had enjoyed the preceding day, they did not exceed the satisfaction we received from the permission granted us to view Steep-hill Cottage. This was once the villa of the late Right Honourable Hans Stanley, then governor of the island; but now it belongs to the Honourable Mr. Tollemache.

It was erected by Mr. Stanley, and, from its situation, must have cost an immense sum. From several concurring circumstances, we were led to believe, that even bring-

bringing the water up to the house was attended with a very considerable expence.

It is in the true cottage stile.—The roof consists, cottage like, of humble thatch; and the outsides of the walls are covered with white composition: forming together a rural and pleasing appearance. But its inside, for neatness and elegance, begs description.—It is at once so plain, so truly elegant, and, though small, so convenient, and so pleasant, that I think I may venture to say I never met with its equal.

The entrance leading from the gate to the house, is lined on both sides with lofty elms and ashes, which form an avenue that reaches almost to the door of the hall, where a display of taste is seen in the surrounding flowers and shrubs.

On the left hand, before we reached the house, stood an urn; and on the right hand, a chair formed of the rough branches of trees, which, though simple, was curious.

As you enter the hall the sight is encountered with fresh beauties; it is not spacious, but in the extreme of taste.—Here are a few pictures by Vandewelde, with several by other masters. But on entering the dining room, we found an exquisite display of the powers of this master's pencil.—We scarcely ever remember seeing a collection of shipping to be compared with it.

The piece in particular which hung over the fire-place, is, without exception, one of the finest by that master.—The subject is a ship in a gale of wind, under top-sails. The handling is wonderful; and the penciling clearly pronounces it to be a *chef d'œuvre*.

Two others of considerable merit hung over the doors: we imagined them to be by Brooking.—They are finely touched:—the sea, in one of them, is spirited to a degree. There are also some by De Velieger, executed in a fine manner, particularly the view of Scheveling.

Last, though not least, two landscapes attracted our notice; which, at first sight, we thought to be Gainsborough's.—The colouring clear and beautiful; the drawing not less great; the finishing in his best stile.—We were however much surprised when we were informed, that they were not actually executed by that great master, but copied after two pieces of his, by the Honourable Mr. Tollemache, the possessor of the villa.

I shall not hesitate to pronounce, that were these pictures hanging in some snug corner in town, the most experienced connoisseur, on getting a sight of them, would immediately conclude them to be originals. They only want time to mellow their fresh appearance, and then few would be able to discover the difference.

The subject of one is a cottage; down the steps of which a country girl is descending.—A favourite subject of that eminent and much lamented master. The other truly depicted to us the mind of this paragon of natural genius.—It was a small piece of water, with a grey horse in a market cart, sipping the surface of the pool. The distance of both is soft and harmonious, and adds double lustre and effect to the fore-grounds. Of all the copiers from Gainsborough, no one perhaps ever caught his touch and colouring with greater exactness, or has been more chaste in the drawing, than Mr. Tollemache, in the pieces referred to.

There being company in the house at the time we were there, we were prevented from seeing the upper part of it;—a disappointment we submitted to with regret; as from what we had seen on the ground floor, we had but little doubt of the remainder being furnished and decorated with equal elegance and taste.

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The outside of the house is no less free from ostentation in its appearance, than the inside is devoid of every false allurements to catch the eye. The principal view from it is towards the west; where a bow window projects, that like the roofs of all the other parts, has only humble thatch for its covering.

A pleasing lawn lies before it, which gradually declining, presents the whole range of St. Lawrence on one side,—the extremity of the ocean on the other. On the right side, at the bottom of the lawn, you pass the wicket that leads to the garden, which, from its situation, cannot fail of being productive. The rocks protect it towards the north, and the sea breezes fan it from the south.

From hence we passed the wing of the house, and entered a path that leads to the grove before mentioned. The offices are some of them in the village, others are adjoining to the house. On the left hand stands the green-house and stabling, but they lie considerably lower than the cottage.

To enumerate the many delightful vicissitudes of this fairy ground, is beyond the power of a pen. I therefore shall conclude my description of it with saying, that to find a spot where those who reside in it are so much respected,—where its vicinity is so pleasing,—its situation so romantic,—and its *tout en-semble* so bewitching,—is next to impossible.

Mr. Tollemache has likewise a brigantine yacht, which, when the weather will permit, lies here to grace the ruder scenes of nature. The inside of it, we were informed, is equally as elegant as his villa, and fitted up with the same taste; but we had not an opportunity of viewing it.

Parties frequently come to the New Inn, at Steephill, to dine; where, though they might not find the sumptuous entertainment of a modern hotel, they will meet with every convenience for serving up a cold collation.

Even in this reclusive and humble situation a ray of taste is visible. The house being small, the proprietors have encouraged the irregular branches of a fig tree to repose itself on an artificial support; thereby forming a kind of canopy, which spreading over a daisy-mantled carpet, serves as a pleasing and agreeable receptacle, in which parties continually dine, *al fresco*. On the opposite side a prouder walnut spreads its branches over the seats, and likewise shelter the cheerful guests from the scorching beams of the sun.

The prospect from these rural sheds is very pleasing, but, in point of landscape, rather contracted. The hill from whence the village derives its name binds the left-hand screen. The valley opens beneath to the road where Mr. Tollemache's yacht usually lies. To shew how much we were charmed with this place, I cannot help making use of an expression of the late Mr. Quin's, on his leaving Chatsworth: "I thought I should at times have broke my neck in getting there; but when I was there, I thought I should have broke my heart to leave it."

The shore here is very rocky, and, when the wind blows fresh from the southward, very dangerous for ships. At such times the yacht leaves her station, and makes for Sandown Bay, or for Spithead.

The inhabitants say, that within the last twenty years the sea has greatly incroached, at this part of the coast, on the land. But if we might judge from the pieces of rock with which the strand is every where strewed, and which must have fallen from the eminences at the time the sea washed their sides, (and this, from every apparent circumstance, must have been the case at some period or other,) it may rather, I think, be concluded that the contrary has happened. The country people, however, think otherwise.

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A number of ravens build in these cliffs, and likewise hawks, of a species peculiar to this spot only;—they are of the falcon kind, and found to be the only sort proper for the sport of hawking. Jack-daws, crows, and many other birds, also make them their habitations, and breed on them. Some of the farmers say they have heard of eagles being there; others are of a different opinion. From the situation of the rocks, such a circumstance is not improbable; but as this bird is generally an inhabitant of colder climates, we were rather inclined to give credit to the assertions of the latter.

The people of this place are chiefly fishermen, who in the summer season take great quantities of crabs and lobsters. For this purpose some of them sink more than a hundred wicker pots, or more properly baskets, at a time; which they bait with whatever kind of flesh or garbage they can procure. And here it may not be improper to hint to the gentlemen of the island, that whenever they lose a dog, they cannot seek for it in a more likely place; though most probably they may chance to come too late to recover it while living. I have myself seen several fine pointers tied up in their huts at a night, which, before the succeeding day has broke, have been made not “worms meat,” as Mercutio was, but food for crabs and lobsters. The coast abounds with shell fish of all sorts, to the great convenience of the lower ranks, who purchase them at three pence per pound; that is generally the price fixed when boiled, and they are always sold by weight.

A fish of a very peculiar nature is sometimes taken here, to which the fishermen, from its circular form, give the name of the sun-fish. The appearance of this fish is extremely whimsical, and Nature seems to have been in a sportive humour when she first fashioned it. In shape it is nearly round, and does not, like most other fish, branch out into any part that might be termed a tail. One part however is rather pointed, at which the head is fixed; the shoulders are placed at the thickest part; after which it becomes rather oval; and it has four fins, situated at the extremities. Taken altogether, it is a droll composition. We could not help resembling it to a school-boy, who, having worn his long hair for a considerable time dangling down his back, has it, on a sudden, cropped close to his neck.

We had been informed, that here, also, we should see a cascade; our expectations however were soon put a stop to, by beholding a little spring, trickling down the side of a hill in a contracted channel, devoid of every appearance of grandeur; and possessing nothing worthy of notice, but the large stone by which its mean clue was broken, and which was sufficient to sustain a body of water fifty times more weighty than that running over it.

Leaving Steephill, we continued our course towards Bonchurch; during which several curious studies for colouring presented themselves, till we passed the corner of a precipice, from whence the beginning of Little-town Down commences. The shelving sides of this precipice hang tottering over the brink of the deep abyss, and threaten an intrusion on the road.—It forms a noble side-screen for the general view of Bonchurch;—while from it the sea has a variegated appearance, and finely assists the landscape.

On first viewing the mountain to which the name of Little-town Down, is given, a traveller may be led to suppose it Steep-hill. Its sides, like that, are almost perpendicular, and, as seen from the road, are formed like a sugar-loaf. A few houses lie at its foot; the road to which from Appuldurcombe is dangerous in the extreme. The hill itself is a noble picturesque object; and forms an elegant back-ground to relieve the

the broken part of the road on which the cottages stand. Here are as many choice pieces of broken rocks, and fore-grounds well verdured, as at Undercliff; only more contrasted. The soil again alters here, and appears to be composed of flint, with great quantities of tobacco-pipe clay.

SECTION VIII.

A LITTLE farther on we came to that beautiful spot, the cottage of St. Boniface; the summer residence of Colonel Hill. This building, which is chiefly of brick, is neat and plain; and the grounds round it, though not large, are well laid out.

To those who delight in the pleasures of retirement, and can relish the social enjoyments of a few friends, and a small family, I know not where to point out a better adapted to such purposes than the cottage of St. Boniface. It is so retired, that it might almost be stiled a hermitage; and at the same time it boasts of all that Nature can bestow. Vegetation thrives here with the utmost luxuriance.—The downs at its back, shelter it from the north; and the stunted branches of some scattered oaks and sucklings shade it from the south.

There are few places of antiquity but what have some extraordinary stories told of them. Among those circulated in this neighbourhood, is the following:—A gentleman mistaking his road during a heavy snow, and descending, in consequence of it, the steep down of St. Boniface, on horseback, he was so affected by the danger he was in, that he vowed if ever he reached the bottom of the hill in safety, he would, as a memento of the kindness of Providence, purchase the land and present it to the church of Shanklin. And we were informed by Mr. Hewson, the present incumbent, that a small parcel of land, of about an acre, was given to the living, as supposed in consequence of that vow.

It is truly laughable to see the manner in which the shepherd's boys, when desired, descend these steepes. Seating themselves on the head-bone of a dead horse, they guide themselves down the steepest declivities with incomparable art, and with the velocity of a stag. Nor was any accident ever known to have happened to them, though the tops of some of these downs are little short of a mile from the sea.

On this rural and romantic spot are several springs, the water of which is of the purest kind. These springs empty themselves into the sea, and form small cascades.

From this place we returned to the main road, and continued our route through Bonchurch, the name of which seems to be an abbreviation of the church of St. Boniface. The cottages that compose this place are strewed in a very picturesque manner. They are constructed of stone, with patches of slate and brick, and are all thatched. The village is nearly surrounded with trees, and harmonizes sweetly with the opposite cliffs.

Here the downs of Bonchurch begin; and they skirt the heights for a considerable distance. Very few cattle are kept upon the adjacent farms; scarcely ever more than are sufficient for their own use. The reason given for this by the farmers, is the want of hay to fodder them with during the winter. But that want, in my opinion, might easily be remedied, if proper attention were paid to this part of agriculture.

The downs of Bonchurch now swept to the left, and presented a new scene to us. Dunnose point was the first head land towards the sea, on our right. The downs of Shanklin joined those of Bonchurch to the left, and formed a perfect amphitheatre.

The chine of Luccombe, or as the country people call it, Bowlhoop, was the next place we visited. Sweeping round the brow of the downs, we entered the valley near Luccombe farm, and made our way to the chine.

This cavity is by no means so deep or terrific as Black-gang chine, being variegated with shrubs and trees. It is indeed rather too much so, as they prevent you from viewing a water-fall which meanders from several springs in the dale. The descent of the chine to the sea is very steep, and in a wet season impassible. On the top of it stands a cottage, sequestered in a small wood. A small wooden bridge crosses the chine to it, underneath which the rippling water has a pleasing effect.

A great quantity of copperas appears to be impregnated with the earth, by the green colours that lie intermixed on its surface. And on the shore are likewise quantities of iron ore, which has been tried, but the quality found not equal to the expence that would attend working it.

The cliffs of these parts, and round about Dunnose, consist of black and brown clay, hurtful to the sight, and hapless to the seamen. The principal use made of this chine, is said to be that of a receptacle for smuggled goods; many hundred casks of which are sometimes secreted in its cavities, and there securely concealed. But, through the attention of the revenue officers, this has of late been in a great measure put a stop to.

Re-ascending this chine, we pursued the track that led to Luccombe farm, the appearance of which from the valley is by no means despicable. The vale is surrounded by the downs before mentioned, and well wooded.—The summits of the downs, when the clouds are low, and roll on their surface, produce a charming effect; and at the same time leave the mind in a state of doubt as to their real altitude.—This induced me to take the annexed view.

The evening scenes here are never equally pleasing to those of the morning; which may be attributed to the soft effects of the sun being lost, through the interference of the mountains, long before its decline.

We enjoyed this view with every advantage a fine evening could produce.—The farm house was pleasantly encircled with wood, and just presented a sufficiency for the subject;—a broken stone wall, with shrubs, having taken off the lower parts from the eye;—while the smoke issuing from the chimney of the house glanced the wood, and soaring up the hills, blended at last with the clouds which hovered on the mountain's brow. On our left the rocks had a pleasing effect, and closed the view on that side.

We now made for the downs of Shanklin, which are before said to have miraculously increased in their height, and where every satisfaction might be received, as to views, that the island can possibly bestow.

Our first sight, taken from Smerdon beacon, was Appuldurcombe, that seat of Sir Richard Worsley, which lies at the bottom of his park. The woods at its back, from this point of sight, are apparently very thin of trees; but the house, though a bird's-eye view, is pleasant; as also is the artificial castle, known by the name of Cook's Castle, which stands opposite to it. The downs of Bonchurch and St. Boniface range down to the park, and form a circular recess.

The principal objects in the valley are Wroxall farms, which in some measure alleviate the dreariness of the hills. Rather more to the north, the valley opens, and presents Godshill;—and traversing your eye still more towards the north, it expands itself, and at once displays the chief part of the island. This most luxuriant dale extends en-

tirely from Appuldurcombe to the mouth of Cowes road, after passing between Carisbrook and Arreton hills.

Here the downs of the latter reared their heads to close the eastern valley. They range almost to Brading, where declining their regular lines, they introduce the creek of Fishborne and Brading harbour to the right; while Foreland point appears the extremity to the east.

The eye still roving, Culver cliffs drop their heights towards the bay of Sandown; where the valley again begins, and leads to the centre of the island; and there turning round the hills between Godshill and Black Down, it enters the vale of Brixton. The Needles to the west form the other extremity.

From the extensiveness of these views, notwithstanding we were now convinced that the hill of St. Catherine's is the highest land, we are of opinion that this is the better spot for taking a general view of the island. The channel of the Solent is perfectly visible from it, and there is likewise a clear view of Southampton; whereas these from St. Catherine's were intercepted by Black Down. Spithead, and all the coast of Sussex, are likewise clearly and distinctly seen from hence.

The evening advancing, the clouds began to gather round the whole island, though scarcely a breath of air was perceptible. Not an evening passed while we were in this part of it but we observed the same extraordinary appearance in the atmosphere to take place. Just where the sun had set, a small gleam of red was visible; in every other part a gloom appeared that almost seemed to threaten a general dissolution. A heavy black vaporous body dragged itself lingeringly from the east; while a confused misty cloud, that hung over the southern hills, seemed but to delay its fury till the other was ripe to assist it in convulsing the earth.

Struck with a phenomenon which we had observed constantly to attend the closing in of the evening, we waited some time near the Beacon, to see the event of it; when suddenly the clouds became rent into a thousand fragments, all of which hastily dispersing, sunk below the horizon. From what cause so extraordinary a circumstance proceeded, I will not pretend to say: leaving the solution to abler meteorologists, I shall content myself with the foregoing representation of what repeatedly caught our attention during the month of September, but which, from its frequency and harmlessness, might not have been thought worthy of notice by the people of the island.

Crossing the downs, we now entered the road to Shanklin. As you approach this village, its vicinity is finely diversified with wood and common; and the woods are particularly well stocked with wild pigeons, whose plaintive notes on a summer's evening lull the mind into a pleasing melancholy. The shyness of these birds renders it very difficult to shoot them.

On this tract of common, a few oaks, irregularly supporting each other, shelter a spring that falls into the beginning of Shanklin chine; which is every where, till it reaches its main body, shaded by ashes and elms, whose pleasing irregularity forms many charming groups. It passes through a small artificial arch, made of stone, and forms a cascade; but as its channel here does not exceed three feet, and is very shallow, it is but when the rains are violent that it deserves the name of a cascade.

The first part of the village of Shanklin, as you enter it by the way we did, contains the church, which is situated in the middle of Mr. Jolliffe's farm-yard, generally called Shanklin farm, from its being the largest in the parish.

Too many are the beauties of this place to be described in the space we can allot for it.—The village is lost to the sight, in a perfect wilderness.—The ash trees, by which it
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is furrounded, are equal in beauty to any in England; they dart their stately branches to the highest pitch that constitutes grandeur, and line the chine from its beginning to the principal cascade. In the course of the rivulet before mentioned, several small springs join it; when it precipitately rushes on to the end of the ash grove, where, in one body, it enters a chasm cleft in the earth, and now forms the best cascade we had as yet seen.

The village of Shanklin affords every gratification a liberal mind can wish for. Few places can boast of greater happiness. Its inhabitants are like one large family: ill nature is not known among them.—Obliging in the extreme, they appear to be the happiest when their visitants are best pleased.

Was there a possibility of procuring a bathing machine at this place, there is no doubt but the well-known hospitality to be found at the house of Mrs. Williams, would attract numbers to partake of the pleasures of this heavenly spot. Under her peaceful roof the traveller may be accommodated with every convenience a village can afford; and even luxury itself might find its cravings gratified.

The only alloy to their happiness the inhabitants are sensible of, is the uncertainty of the tenure of that happiness. Doubtful of ever reaping the fruits of their industry, they meet with little encouragement to render their lands as productive as they might be made; the leases by which they are held being only granted for three lives, unrenewable; when these are extinct, they devolve to the original landlord. And in the same manner is the spirit of industry damped on all this part of the Isle of Wight.

The chine being the principal object here that attracts the notice of travellers, I took the annexed faint sketch of it during a very heavy rain.—The mouth of it, towards the sea, appears to have been rent by some sudden eruption of over-loaded Nature; and the effects of this concussion extend for full a quarter of a mile, in a line to the village, where its progress was probably stopped by the solidity of the rock.

A flight of steps has been made in the chine for the convenience of the inhabitants, in order that they might ascend and descend with the greater ease. A gentleman of the island, in a tour round it, has asserted (believing, or being betrayed by the country people into the belief of it,) that these were not artificial steps, but occasioned by the eruption. They would have imposed the same deception on us; but when they saw that we treated the idea with ridicule, they candidly acknowledged that it was their custom to endeavour to deceive strangers in this point. On a small level, half way down towards the sea, stands a fisherman's hut, which has the charm of relieving the most rugged appearance of the cliffs.

Mr. Fitzmaurice, who once resided here, we understood, was at the expence of making a road to the waterfall; but from the water that ravages the bottom of the chine, and the violence of the wind in the winter, it soon became impassable.

The bottom still continues firm, and we ventured as far as the cascade. Many clumps of earth, which have fallen from the promontories that form its declivities, obstruct the passage. We found it to be well covered with plants and shrubs, that negligently break the career of the stream.

The chine has four turns before it reaches the waterfall, all of which bear a proportionable degree of that sublime awfulness such a scene naturally inspires. When we had reached its extremest limits, the fall exhibited more grandeur, and cleared itself of the precipice with greater boldness and majesty, than we had ever seen in any before. A few shrubs hang on its sides, and sip the spray arising from the agitated foam, the sprinklings of which produce that vernal mossy bloom that so often contrasts the other vegetation, and doubles its wonted splendour.

It scarcely admits of a doubt, but that Shanklin chine, like the others, is a rent in the rock, occasioned by that internal combustible matter, which reduced the whole of them to their present state. Its sides are strongly impregnated with iron, copperas, and sulphur. About one-third of the way from its head there is a chalybeate spring, with an unusual scum on its surface, and a sediment of iron in its channel.

While here, we were convinced, from ocular demonstration, of the effect the rain has on this stream. At such times the body of water is very considerably increased, and the waterfall so swells, as to become an object worthy the notice of the curious. It pours down through all the foregoing channels, and rushes with violence into the sea.

The beach here has a fine sandy bottom, entirely free from rocks or stones; which renders it a very desirable place for bathing. To the right, a well-known hill, called Horse Lodge, projects into the sea, and forms the southern extremity of Sandown bay, binding behind it the point of Dunnose. On the left it is bounded by Culver cliffs, and affords a fine recess for small vessels during a gale of wind.

The spots most distinguishable from the chine are Sandown fort, and the seat of Mr. Wilkes. The situation of the latter appears from hence to be extremely pleasant, and to command very extensive views.

Returning from the chine to the village of Shanklin, a space of about half a mile, through corn fields, we had another view of that place; but, as before observed, there is little of it to be seen; the sight being obstructed by the lofty trees which surround it. The down behind it, whose sides are well wooded, terminate the view.

To add to the beauty of this spot, an uncommon number of singing birds of various sorts, haunt the sequestered vale, and by their sweet notes, give a cheerfulness to every returning morn. I must not omit to mention one circumstance which redounds to the honour of the inhabitants of Shanklin.—So sensible are they of the value of liberty, that, during my stay here, I did not observe a bird to be immured in a cage throughout the whole place.

Ungrateful must be those who, enjoying freedom themselves, and sensible of the value of it, shall refuse it to the sweet choristers, whose carols afford them so much pleasure. Ask the captive, that, naked and forlorn, lingers out a miserable existence in a loathsome cell, the gnawing fetters rending his flesh, and hunger wearing him to the bone; and he will tell you, that freedom is the gift of Nature to all her children, without exception; and inhuman must be those who deprive even the feathered race of that right. Or, as Thomson much better describes the inhumanity of confining birds in cages:

“Be not the muse ashamed here to bemoan
Her brothers of the grove by tyrant man
Inhuman caught, and in the narrow cage
From liberty confin'd, and boundless air.
Dull are the pretty slaves, their plumage dull,
Ragged, and all its bright'ning lustre lost;
Nor is that sprightly wildness in their notes,
Which, clear and vigorous, warbles from the beech.
O then, ye friends of love and love-taught song,
Spare the soft tribes, this barbarous art forbear;
If on your bosom innocence can win,
Music engage, or piety persuade.”

THOMSON'S SEASONS.

When we had returned to our place of residence for the night, a scene presented itself that, had it fallen under the inspection of Mr. Wright, would have received ample justice from the masterly touches of his pencil.

A parcel of countrymen, who had just returned from the harvest field, had sought the shelter of a shady retreat on the green plot which stands before the house, in order to wipe the sweat of industry from their honest brows, and to regale themselves after the fatigues of a sultry day. In all that carelessness peculiar to these people, they had happily grouped themselves, and in such a position that the light of a glimmering taper shone full on their faces, and produced a fine effect.

At the same time, near the extremity of the branches that sheltered the rustics, the moon, darting her silver beams on part of the house, and playing on the boughs of the trees, gently glided away to the sea, and caught every returning wave as it rose. On the left, the cliffs of Culver were plainly discernable through the trees, and seemed to have combined their charms to heighten the scene, and delighten the imagination. For near an hour not a single cloud obstructed this pleasing light, but every instant added fresh beauties to the landscape.

SECTION IX.

LEAVING Shanklin, we passed the village of Lake, and made for the seat of John Wilkes, Esq. This villa, though not large, has every requisite to make it a desirable abode. The house is rather low; it is however extensive, having had many improvements made to it by its present proprietor; whose judgment and taste in all the elegancies of life are well known. It stands on an eminence, and commands the whole prospect of Sandown Bay.

The greatest deficiency observable here is the want of wood; that would give it a preference to most other parts of the island. But the trees around Mr. Wilkes's mansion do not thrive to his wishes.

The inside of the house is plain, but elegantly fitted up, and abounding with every convenience that can tend to the accommodation of a family. On the right side of it a marquée is erected, which serves for a summer house, and, for taste, is equal to any thing of the kind we had ever seen. Several curious engravings from the antique, grace its sides; and we saw several others lying on the tables; but the latter were not so well executed as those hung up. At the farther end of the marquée, over a specimen of conjugal felicity in basso relievo, is the following inscription, engraved on a marble tablet:

To filial Piety
and
Mary Wilkes.
Erected by
John Wilkes,
1789.

The gardens are well laid out, and compensate in a great measure for the want of wood; and the young shrubberies now around it bid fair to supply that loss, and to complete the beauty of this desirable spot.

Few of the gentlemen who resort to this island on summer excursions but what must remark the wonderful contrasts of it; and I must again observe, that were a stranger

stranger to be taken from Allum Bay, or Under Cliff, and placed here, he would imagine he was got into a different country.

Between this place and Shanklin, within the last twenty years, the sea has intruded full thirty feet on the land. The broken ground throughout the whole of the way from Small Hopes to Shanklin chine, is a sufficient proof of the truth of this observation.

Our next destination was to Sandown fort. This fort commands the bay from which it takes its name. It is a low square building, flanked by four bastions, and encompassed by a ditch. The lowness of it secures it against any attacks by sea, as the shots from the ships pass over it. During the last war several privateers entered the bay, and attempted to destroy it, but were not able to succeed in the attempt; beating down a few chimnies was the height of their achievements. It was repaired, not many years ago, at a considerable expence; and there are several master-gunners, with a small garrison in it; so that this part of the coast is defended by it, during a war, from the attacks of an enemy.

From Sandown we made for Yaverland; a small village situated at the foot of Brading downs. In our way we coasted the cliffs of Culver, the inhabitants of which are chiefly gulls and pigeons. From the latter it receives its name, culpe being the Saxon word for a pigeon. Formerly this kind of bird was more numerous on these rocks than any other species, but they are of late much decreased; many of them however still remain.

Looking back, we had now an advantageous view of the downs we had crossed the preceding day.—Appuldercombe house was perfectly discernible, as was also the view from it of Brading harbour; which few would have imagined. The valley opened between the downs of Brading and Yaverland, and presented the harbour of the former, with the road of St Helen's. The spot of wood called Queen-bower, was very conspicuous to the sight; while the extremity of the vale apparently closed at Black Down and Gaetcombe hills.

Pursuing our way still by the sea side, we came to the Foreland, the easternmost point of the island. From thence we met with nothing of novelty till we reached Bimbridge point, where the entrance of Brading haven commences. The adjacent land is well wooded, and very agreeable to the view.

The haven consists of an extensive tract of marsh land, amounting to upwards of eight hundred acres. It is covered every tide by the sea, which flows through a narrow passage. Many attempts have been made to procure a constant entrance into this haven for ships of burden, but without success; the sand being driven in as fast as it is cleared away. From this circumstance, one of the securest and most extensive harbours in the channel, wherein the ships at Spithead and St. Helen's might find a ready retreat, in case of necessity, is unfortunately rendered useless.

We now traversed the banks of the harbour, and skirted its borders, as near as the road would allow. From its woody banks and cheerful aspect the transparent water receives every pleasing impression they can possibly bestow. Two houses, genteel in their appearance, lay to our right; while Nunwell, the seat of the ancient family of Sir William Oglander, faces the harbour.

From hence we still kept to the left, wishing to have a perfect view of the marshes of Brading, as well as those of Sandown. From the latter the island receives every advantage such a tract of land can yield, the greatest part of it being appropriated to the cultivation of corn. It is well watered, and a small river runs through it, that keeps it in

in a continual state of verdure. A great number of cattle are grazed upon it; nature having happily furnished this blessed spot with a profusion of the sweetest herbage.

The valley leads down to Newchurch; a place we intend to visit before we leave this island, but shall not be able to include it in the tour we are now on, round the coasts. On our right-hand the opposite shores of the lake were no contemptible object, clad as they were in Autumn's gayest vest. The water infringing on this side as well as on the other, we had all its diversified effects. This vale furnishes pasture for a considerable number of cattle, but not proportionable to that of Sandown.

Once more entering the road, we pursued our way to Brading, with a design to course the shores of the opposite side of the harbour. Brading, though one of the largest towns in the island, has not a single object about it to render it the subject of particular attention. It is merely a town, without any of that diversity most others have. Even its church is obliterated by the ill-judged carefulness of the worthy overseers; and what once might have invited, now disgusts the sight.

Meeting with nothing to detain us in the town, we passed through it, and pursued the right-hand road, in order to track the boundaries of its lake on the side, of which we had a view in the morning; and having travelled about half a mile towards the north, we struck away to St. Helen's.

The southern shores of the harbour are far pleasanter to view than its northern. Breaks between the mountains introduce the main valley of the island, with a distinct view of Sir Richard Worsley's seat, and the hill of St. Catherine's. The vale before mentioned, extending from Appuldurcombe house, had greater beauties than in any point of view we had hitherto seen it. The trees fell charmingly into each other, and formed small coppices; while the downs, which surrounded it, rose with more than common grandeur.

The bay of Brading takes several fine sweeps, and most pleasantly contrasts the scenes.—Many woody promontories run into the harbour, and give grace to its boundaries.—The road to St. Helen's is on both sides lined with trees, which renders it delightful.—We found much greater appearance of nobleness here, in every path we pursued, than the opposite vallies had to boast.—To our left the country was chiefly wood.—The road to Ride, throughout the whole way, was covered with oaks, which, as they were just assuming the autumnal colouring, shone with unspeakable splendor.

The village of St. Helen's consists of a few scattered huts, constructed chiefly of stone, and thatched. It is not improbable, from some ancient accounts, but that it was formerly of much greater consequence than it is at present. There is a large farm in the parish still called the Priory, it having been a cell to an abbey of Cluniac monks in Normandy. The old church was situated so near the sea, that it was endangered by its encroachments, upon which account a brief was obtained by the inhabitants for erecting a new one, about the beginning of the present century.

There are several quarries near this village, from which the materials are procured wherewith all the buildings for the lower ranks, in this quarter of the island, are constructed.

The air is remarkably healthy and clear; and what is no less observable, pleasure and tranquillity seem to brighten every countenance. From what source it proceeds I will not pretend to say, but the inhabitants of the island appear to possess a fund of cheerful-

cheerfulness and good humour, that is not so conspicuous in any other part of His Majesty's dominions.

The farmers in general are a social, hospitable, and worthy set of people; and many of them by their industry and attention, have acquired very considerable fortunes. If there be any degradation to their character, it is that of moistening their clay with too copious draughts of potent liquors. This propensity however is not partial, but predominates throughout the whole island; and it might be urged in extenuation of it, that the nature of their soil, and the intense heat of their summers, allow of a greater excess in this point than many parts of England. It is a foible that commences with their earliest years, and "growing with their growth," few of the farmers on the mother island, seasoned as most of them are, would be able to cope with those of the Isle of Wight.

The convenience of St. Helen's is well known to all outward-bound ships passing through the channel, as most of them take in here their live stock for sea; poultry being extremely cheap, and all other provisions proportionably so.

Through the efficacy of a bill procured by the gentlemen of the island for securing the farmers from the depredations of foxes, badgers, polecats, and other noxious animals, the island is kept very free from them. Even to let one of them loose is an offence punishable with transportation; for were they once to take root in the island, from the number of coverts in the cliffs, &c. it would be nearly impossible to extirpate them.

While we were there, we were informed that a fox, which had been reared from a cub by a gentleman near Newchurch, broke his chain, and made his escape to the cliffs of Shanklin; where, as usual, he lay concealed in the day time, and committed his depredations during the night. At length being luckily detected in carrying off some poultry from Shanklin farm, he was shot; and this is the only instance of any mischief being done by these animals for a great number of years;—I believe within the memory of the oldest inhabitant.

At the bottom of the hill of St. Helen's a land mark is placed as a guide to mariners; from which Dover Point binds the entrance to the harbour of Brading. This point is near half a mile from the foot of the hill where the village of St. Helen's stands, and is covered chiefly with sand and furze. This is the point that choaks the harbour, and obstructs the entrance of ships of burden.

From this view the harbour appears like a lake.—The land closes it from hence on all sides, and makes an excellent study.—The woody screens of St. Helen's run all the way along its banks to Brading, where it is joined by those that encircle the town.—Nunwell woods blend in the back-ground with those of Brading, and freshen the scene.—The valley still continues open, and permits St. Catherine's to form a part of the distance.—On the left the water takes large sweeps round the point of land which falls into its basin.—The downs of Binbridge range along the shores, and form the side-screens.

Outward-bound ships not only take in their poultry, &c. here, but likewise their water; which is found to be preferable to that of most other parts. East-Indiamen have been known to carry it to their destined ports, and bring some of it back, in as sweet a state as when taken from the spring. And it has this further advantage, that when at sea, it recovers itself sooner than any other.

Nettlestone Priory, which lies about a mile and a half from St. Helen's, became the next object of our visits. We had entertained hopes of finding something out of the common line, in a place that might be supposed to bear the venerable remains of antiquity;

quity; and indeed the entrance to it quite transported us;—a grove of nodding elms towered over the avenue; but we were not a little surprized to find these expectations soon disappointed. The farm mentioned before, (to which it is now converted) has not in its appearance the least trace of its having been the abode of a holy brotherhood. Neither antiquity nor beauty was to be seen about it.—Nothing more than a dirty farm-yard presented itself.

Passing through this, we entered the garden of Sir Nash Grose.—The old mansion, which still retains the name of the Priory, is plain and neat, but small. An additional house has lately been begun by that gentleman, and bids fair to prove a very desirable residence.—The prospects from this spot, of the sea, together with the coasts of Suffex and Hampshire, are very extensive, and give it the preference in point of situation, to many in the island.

Near the Priory several salt-works are established, which for convenience exceed the general run of these works.

SECTION X.

FROM hence we returned through Nettlestone village, and proceeded towards Ride. The road we now passed through is in excellent repair, and the country exhibits a very different aspect to what it had hitherto done.—Woods, abounding with oaks, encircle the roads and villages.—These oaks, however, are not possessed of the grandeur of those produced in the New Forest. Formerly the Isle of Wight was chiefly covered with wood; but from its contiguous situation to the dock-yards at Portsmouth, the southern vallies have been considerably dismembered of it.

The soil changes here again, and consists of mould, sand, and gravel. Several grass farms lie near the road, and clothe the vallies with pleasanter tints than we had passed.

On our right lay St. John's, late the seat of Lord Amherst, but now of Mr. Lake. The house stands on a rising ground, and commands very extensive views. The woody scenes of Ride lie before it, with the sea at its back front. The building is plain, but very neat, and displays great taste; it besides possesses every requisite to make it a complete and commodious mansion. The grounds belonging to it, though not extensive, are well stocked.

From its situation it becomes a very desirable sporting lodge; the woods around it affording shelter to a great number of hares and pheasants; and as care is taken to secure them from the depredations of poachers, there is seldom any want of sport. The woods likewise abounding with springs, woodcocks and snipes are also found here in plenty.

The road proceeds from hence to Ride.—The principal part of this place is termed Upper Ride, which lies on the top of the hill, in a clear pleasant air. It is a plain and neat village, and has several well-built houses in it. A great deal of company resort to it during the bathing season, the accommodations being nearly equal to those at Cowes; but the principal reason for preferring this to the other watering places, is the many fine rides which strike out from it; and, in general, the roads are rather better than in many parts of the island.

Lower Ride is a straggling place, and has a nearer resemblance to the subjects Vangoen studied, than to those of any other master. Several small vessels are built here; and the inhabitants are mostly fishermen, and mariners employed in the coasting trade.

The passage from hence to Portsmouth is the nearest from any part of the island.—It is thought to be rather more than seven miles across; but the boatmen say not quite so much. Boats pass regularly every morning, at seven o'clock in the summer, and nine in the winter, from hence to Gosport and Portsmouth, to the great convenience of those places; the inhabitants being chiefly supplied with their butter, eggs, and poultry, from hence, and other parts of the island.

Towards the western extremity of the village are the bathing houses, whose situation is preferable to any on the opposite shores, both on account of the pureness of the water, and the conveniences. The coast off this place is shoal for almost a mile; so that ships of burden are prevented from lying near. Every accommodation necessary for parties, during the bathing time, is to be procured at Ride; and the pleasantness of its situation, and its rides, exclusive of these accompaniments, are great inducements for strangers to visit it.

On the road from Ride to Bimstead delightful scenes frequently present themselves. Before we entered the village, a fine piece of broken ground opened, and gave us the best view of Spithead we had as yet seen. On both sides, the oak and the ash formed beautiful screens, leaving a space just sufficient for the water and distance to make a grand appearance.

Many old stumps of trees lay scattered near the road, that, with a team of horses, formed a fine group.—The horses belonged to a farmer, who was loading felled timber on one of those picturesque long carriages, just suited to the romantic appearance of the fore-ground; and which produced as complete a composition as could be desired for such a scene.—A well-known favourite subject of the late Mr. Gainborough.

Passing Bimstead, we entered the woods that encircle Quarr abbey.—Their nobleness is grateful to the eye, and gives the mind a finer idea of a true sketch of nature than those we had passed when we left Nettlestone Priory.—All was regularly irregular; and they played off every charm to the greatest advantage, over a brook, whose rapid stream murmured against the pointed surface of the stones; while the boughs kindly condescended to shade its cool retreat.

Hitherto we had never met with trees on this island in so thriving a condition as those which now sheltered us. An immense number of wood pigeons inhabit these solitary walks, whose melancholy notes, added to the still silence that reigned throughout the grove, inspired us with a sacred awe.—All was hushed;—not a leaf was ruffled by the passing breeze.—At length we reached the abbey;

“Where pious beadsmen, from the world retired,
In blissful visions winged their souls to Heaven;
While future joys their sober transports fir'd,
They wept their erring days, and were forgiv'n.

Where burn the gorgeous altar's lasting fires?
Where frowns the dreadful sanctuary now?
No more Religion's awful flame aspires!
No more th' asylum guards the fated brow!

No more shall Charity, with sparkling eyes
And smiles of welcome, wide unfold the door,
Where Pity, listening still to Nature's cries,
Befriends the wretched, and relieves the poor!”

KEATE.

This

This celebrated abbey was founded in the reign of Henry the First, by Baldwin, Earl of Devon, and was dedicated to the Virgin Mary. The monks by which it was inhabited were removed from Savigny in Normandy, and were among the first of the Cistercian order that came into England. It probably received its name of Quarr, or as it is called in some of the old grants, Quarraria, from the stone quarries that are in its neighbourhood.

It was anciently encircled by a wall, near a mile in circumference, the vestiges of which still remain. At its back nods a venerable grove, that gives solemnity to the scene; and from it there is an opening to the sea, which furnished the holy fathers with an opportunity of contemplating the wonders of the deep.

The greatest part of this ancient building is demolished; a few of the walls only still remain. The architecture, as far as can be now judged of, was a mixture of Saxon and Gothic. The church or chapel of the monastery may yet be traced at the east end; and some vaulted cellars are discernible at the west end. Of the walls that are standing, some are converted into barns, by being covered with thatch, and others degraded into sties or stables.

The farm-house adjoining to it is a modern building, and tends much to diminish the venerableness of the ruder vestiges, which time has brought to a stage beyond perfection. A few years ago a great deal more of the abbey was in existence; but now not an interesting view of it can be taken.

All its former grandeur lies a wreck to time; and from the dirt strewed around by its different possessors, the principal part of the building is embowelled in the earth, and overgrown with moss and rugged fern. Its distance from the sea is very inconsiderable; and there is still remaining, just above high-water mark, some appearance of a fort, which was built for its defence in the time of King Edward the Third.

We could not leave the poor remains of this once grand and venerable pile, without sighing at the depredations of time, and lamenting the havoc it has made on these abodes of piety and peace.

Proceeding through the other avenue, we bent our course towards Wootton-bridge. The road from the abbey was finely wooded with oaks, and contributed to keep alive the gloomy ideas that had taken possession of our minds. This cover continued for some time; but when an opening took place, the choicest variety of tints diffused themselves round the tops of the trees, that can be imagined. The leaves of the oaks had just become rubid, and mingling with those that had fallen from the ash, which were nearly yellow, produced a fine and glowing colour.

The branches of most of the oaks that were arrived at maturity, were disrobed of their leaves, on a few of their boughs. This, at some times, produces a beautiful effect; at others it is disgusting; but as this uncertainty depends on the manner of their growth, and their situation, the knowledge of it can only be obtained by ocular observation.

A thousand turns and forms of trees may present themselves to a judicious eye, and few of these perhaps might please.—The noblest oaks frequently have too great a number of branches, and these branches may be over-loaded with ramifications; when this is the case, but little verdure appears on them. At other times these trees, when deprived of that luxuriance, have a great quantity of moss gather on their boughs; which, in the middle of the summer, blends too much with the green leaves; but towards autumn, when the leaves turn brown, they appear, owing to the heat, quite grey and vivid.—So also in the morning at sun-rise, when the dew has well moistened this moss,

and thrown a gloss over the other parts of the wood, they shine most beautifully, and form noble colouring.—But so momentary is the effect of this operation of Nature, and so quick the transition, that it scarcely can be discerned by the careless eye. The principal beauty of picturesque representations depending in a great measure on the observance of these minutiae, they are not unworthy the attention of the artist.

As we passed through the wood, we fell in with a buck and doe;—but we found they were not natives of this part;—such as escape from Sir Richard Worsley's park, and this frequently happens, generally make for these woods.

At the extremity of this range of cover, we came close to Wootton-bridge hill; which for convenience of water carriage, claims a superior rank to many other parts of the island.—Here every diversity encountered the sight.—A great plenty of water lay in the valley, which was delightfully wooded on both sides, down to its banks.—Its views are extremely pleasant, and quite different from any we had hitherto seen. The left hand presents an entire screen of woods, which gracefully pass from Nunwell to the foot of Afhey down, whose height terminates the distance, and forms a noble back-ground.

The sun was setting at the time it fell under our inspection, and it powerfully impressed with its rays the tops of the shrubs. Many sweet hues from them also brought the liveliest colouring on the trees; nor was their reflection on the briny mirror less beautiful.—Several transitory streaks of the evening beamed, with an expression beyond all description fine, in the water.—The tide was in; and as on this side Wootton-bridge mills the wind and weather have no effect, it was a placid lake; and stained with the highest glows the hand of Nature could imprint. It is true its turn has not an equal degree of grace with those in the northern parts of England, but it has an innumerable diversity of objects to recommend it.

The right of Wootton-bridge leads to the sea. This we sailed down, and were as well pleased with the beauties of it, as any we had before seen. The only deficiency we could perceive was the want of rock, that great assistant to landscape. A few of those cliffs with which the southern shores of the island are overloaded, would have rendered this one of the completest and most beautiful lake-views in the island. Its right side has all the woods of Quarr skirting its shores, which are answered by the opposite sides, where the same texture prevails.—A few interpositions of corn and grass break among the woods, and reach likewise to the water; but these are too small to add much grace to it.

On our return, the mill and bridge broke the first distance of the water;—over which the woods that ranged along Afhey down united themselves to the others that swept along Arreton downs; where they appeared to be broke by a few straggling hills which joined the road to Ride.

Having feasted our sight for a considerable time on this delightful view, we passed on for Barton, formerly the seat of Lord Clanrickard, but now the property of Mr. Blachford. A convent or oratory of friars, of the order of St. Augustin, was founded here in the year 1282; which was granted in the year 1439 to the college of Winchester.

SECTION XI.

WE now quitted the high road, and turning to the right hand, passed through several corn fields till we reached another copse of a considerable extent. The quantity of wood growing in this quarter of the island is nearly incredible, when compared to the other

other parts :—the latter appear a desert to it. This diversity renders it at once pleasant and striking ;—and gives a far greater scope for the pencil than a common valley, thinly strewed with hedge-rows, possibly can.

The right-hand road led us directly to Barton House, which stands upon an eminence, and commands fine prospects.—When viewed from the foot of the hill it has a very pleasing effect.—The house is an ancient building, and the appearance of it such as we generally find the mansions which were erected about the reign of Queen Elizabeth ;—the windows are composed of leaded casements, which are all sunk in the wall. The late noble possessor of it, Lord Clanrickard, whose usual residence it was, made several additions to it.—All the sides of the rooms are of wainscot, formed into small pannels, in which are affixed a number of representations of the cross.

Here was likewise a chapel ; but the building is now appropriated to less sacred purposes, being converted into a warehouse for wool. A great lameness runs through the whole house, both in its internal and external parts. The mode of its construction, with so many gable ends towards the front, gives a great formality to its appearance ; as do the tall chimnies ; both of which appear disgusting in a picture.

The lawn before the house is pleasant, but too regularly planted with clumps of evergreens, that savour more of the dullness of a citizen than the taste of a nobleman. We had, however, a fine view from it of Stokes bay to the right, and of Hampton water to the west. The sea-view was a great relief to its other prospects, and by far the best.

Osborne, the seat of Robert Pope Blachford, Esq. was our next object. The road from Barton House, (which, as before observed, belongs likewise to this gentleman) is not of any considerable length, and at the same time without much novelty.

This seat may be ranked as one of the best chosen residences in the island. On a fine spacious lawn that leads to the sea, stands the pleasantly-situated mansion.—The views from it are as extensive as they can be on the northern side ;—Spithead has a fine appearance from it ;—so has Hampton river.

The building is very large, and has all its offices behind it. The inside is equally convenient and roomy ; and is now receiving considerable improvements.

From hence we touched at Old Castle-point, and had a prospect of West Cowes on the opposite side of the river ;—but nothing more presented itself than what we had seen on our first arrival at the island.

As we had before, in our way to Newport, rode along the western boundaries of the river Medina, we now made its eastern side our principal object. After leaving East Cowes, the first curve of the river presented itself a little beyond Osborne. In this sweep its course is fine, and forms a perfect view. The opposite shores are softly touched with wood and fern, and share no inconsiderable part of its beauties.

Whippingham now formed the fore-ground. But concluding that the river must make a conspicuous appearance from that place, we descended to it. The church of Whippingham is as curious an object of the kind as we ever beheld ; and unlike every one we had yet seen. The tower, instead of having battlements or a turret, has two gable ends, and reminded us rather of a house than of a church.

The vicarage, formerly the seat of Dr. Lewis, is now the residence of Mr. Barrington, junior.—The house is constructed partly of wood and partly of brick.—It is rather low, but exceedingly pleasant, and a fit pattern for those who wish to combine taste with pleasure.—The front of it is towards the river, and it has a very conspicuous view of the opposite shores.—From these windows the finest and most distinct view of the river

is

is seen.—Without entering into a minute description of the inside of the house, we would just observe that the bed-rooms, though small, are so judiciously fitted up, that every convenience attends them.

As you approach Newport, you there perceive the river to meander in delightful curves, while the loaded barks, proudly skimming along its translucent bosom, add lustre to the scene.—Carisbrook Castle, with the hills and downs of Gatcombe, close the view towards the south; as the King's Forest does to the west, and the downs of Arreton to the east.

The mill belonging to Mr. Smith, known by the name of Botany-bay Mill, lies to the left of the river, and is just seen terminating the curve of the tide. In point of situation for exhibiting a variety of scenes, this mill stands unrivalled on the banks of the Medina. Its grounds are small, but so well laid out, that every necessary is soon to be procured. There are but few houses in the village of Whippingham, and those principally belonging to farmers.

Rising now on the high grounds, we had more distinct views of the hills round Carisbrook than before. The evening at the same time closing in, one of the heavy purple harbingers of approaching night had nearly dropt its aerial curtain before the declining sun.—Yet so warmly did its power beam on every object it caught, that its glow appeared to be contracted only to shine with double vividness.—Every plant it touched was perfectly on fire, and scarcely confined its hues to the turf on which it grew.

By the time a few minutes more had elapsed, the sun had descended below this gloomy mantle, in which night's dreary scenes were soon to be enwrapped; and finding a passage from the brow of Alvington forest to glance the remains of his departing rays, he tinged with them the opposite wood;—but so faintly that the green but barely received its yellow tints.

From this mellowness of tint, however, the colouring was soft, without too strong a glare. At the decline of day the shadows are fine and broad, and assist the imagination in acquiring a proper idea of this great branch of the art,—and how properly to apply it.—The hills of Swanston imperceptibly crept to the sight, and glided off to the valley of Shalfleet, where a small interposition of the sea finished the scene.

The river continued to diversify its turns at every step we advanced, till we reached Fairlee, the seat of Mr. White. This house stands on an eminence, and commands both views of the river.—The opening from Cowes road to the Mother Bank and the Brambles, from hence is beautiful, and exhibits fine traits of the scenes in general produced by sea ports. The front of the house, which is chiefly brick, is towards the river. The other part has several long buildings annexed to it, without either novelty or elegance. The inside is plain and neat; besides which it has nothing very remarkable to boast of. The lawn, before it, reaches to the water-side;—it is spacious, and gives a nobleness to the building.—On its left is a wood, which skirts the sides down to the river.—The right is open, and descends to the same point.

Heavy clouds had for a considerable time been hovering in the horizon;—they now rolled over our heads, and poured down upon us their tremendous contents.—The thunder loudly roared in awful peals;—the rain spouted on us in cataracts;—and the lightning darted forth its most vivid sulphur.—When the rain had somewhat abated of its fury, the lightnings exhibited the finest presentations we had seen since we came upon the island.—The flashes being remarkably long in their continuance, the illumination they threw over the adjacent parts was grand beyond description; and detained

us by its beauties for near an hour, absorbed in wonder and admiration.—The town of Newport received from its brilliance every display it was in the power of light to give it, and appeared a perfect spot of beauty;—while the river and the surrounding wood derived from it their proportion of grandeur.

The storm had now vented its fury, and heavily rolled on; when, passing the corner of Bleak Heath, we entered Newport at the east bridge, having completed our tour round the extremities of the island.

SECTION XII.

OUR next object was to view the island from its central mountains, and to explore the picturesque beauties which the middle parts of it afford in such profusion. For this purpose we took our route to the eastward; and leaving Newport north road, we fell in with the foot of Arreton downs, at Shide Mill, about a mile from the town.

The situation of this place is very beautiful; and, unlike most others in the island, has a few trees encircling each of the houses, with the river Medina meandering along the valley.—Passing its bridge, we perceived the hills to rise to a great height, and form a noble fore-ground.—The bridge, though not considerable, becomes an object, and finely breaks the streaky lines of Gatcombe vale to the right.

The road on the downs is very steep, and mostly chalk and gravel. As we ascended, the valley opened in a lovely manner, and presented a charming variety of objects to engage the attention.—Gatcombe hills bounded the view to the right, and skirted the dale to Black Down, where it joined the hill of St. Catherine's, and terminated the valley.

Gatcombe house from hence is a conspicuous object, and from these heights receives a full display of its beauty and situation. From the hill we had a slight view of Mr. Roberts's seat.—There the vale broke away to Godshill, and swept, to the left, under the park of Appuldurcombe, from whence it took its course to the side of Queen Bower, where the valley of New-church commences, and both terminated at Sandown.

The village of Arreton lay close under our right, and presenting itself in a bird's-eye view, was pleasanter to the sight from this point than any other we had yet observed it in. Crossing the downs to the left, we viewed the woody scenes of Ride and Wootton-bridge.

Cowes harbour is seen from this down to great advantage;—every curve of the stream is perfectly discernible from it, and exhibits a greater variety than can be procured from any other spot;—the woods range down to it in perfect grandeur, and conceal all those littlenesses that so often broke upon us when seen from every other quarter. Alvington forest bounded its opposite shore, and opened its scenes towards the vale of Shalfleet, where the sight was closed. The road of Cowes, diminishing to a pleasing avenue, presented its vessels at anchor;—while Luttrell's Folly and Calshot castle were perfectly visible.

The morning was grey, and clearer than the mornings generally are here.—A haze frequently interrupts the sight; but not that sort which at sun-rise so finely exhibits the extravagance of Nature, and displaying every wanton freak upon the mountain's head, gives pleasure to the sight, and grandeur to the landscape;—it was of a more dewy substance, that just streaks the horizon, and at the least approach of warmth disperses.

From Cowes the valley was richly lined with wood, and so harmonized, that every gaiety we could possibly have wished for was produced. Still the woods continued to display

display their grandeur, till an opening at Wootton-bridge broke them.—We had a fine prospect of this little lurking spot of Nature, and viewed it in its gayest vest.—It had been seen before by us towards the conclusion of a former day, but now it was possessed of all the diversified effects of a morning, which scattered gladness over every surrounding branch.

The water was at too great a distance to produce more than variety; but this it did in such profusion as had never before been exhibited to us.—A steam, arising from its surface, glided along the boundaries of the adjacent woods, and, creeping up the opposite hills, seemed to glory in uniting all the scenes in one point.

The houses that bound Wootton-bridge were now buried in the aerial substance which seemed to envelope every part with its softest bloom.—The trees shone with double lustre, and presented all the luxuriance that verdure could display.

The sea, in our distance, was blended with the sky; and nothing appeared to be wanting to render the portraiture complete but the pencil of Mr. Morland, whose well-known knowledge in nature, composition, drawing, and colouring, would have given, if possible, a higher finish than Nature herself had done.

The glorious source of light and heat now gradually began to break up from the east, and soon dispelled this refreshing effervescence of Nature.—The vapours almost instantaneously ceased to glow, and retiring, introduced to the sight the remaining woods that diffuse themselves in this quarter.

We could not discern any part of the venerable walls of Quarr abbey.—The village of Ride we could just see; but so small a part of it, that only a few houses were visible over the trees. The vessels that were passing near its shores had their share in the scenes, but not to that extreme we wished. Still the woods alternately cheered the dale, and threw fresh lustre on the scene; while on our left, at the foot of Ashey downs, they continued to range entirely to Nunwell.

To those who have no relish for picturesque scenes, these descriptions may carry with them the appearance of too much warmth, and the views seem to be verbally portrayed in colours too glowing; but those who have a taste for the fine arts, and are possessed of so much judgment and sensibility as to be charmed with the picturesque beauties of Nature, will, undoubtedly forgive the seeming enthusiasm; and accompanying us step by step, view in idea the scenes we represent; and find the same romantic ardour and admiration excited in their minds by the *description* that we found excited in ours by the *views*.

SECTION XIII.

PROCEEDING a little farther, we arrived at Ashey sea-mark, a triangular pyramid, constructed of stone, about twenty feet high, and designed as a guide for ships sailing from St. Helen's to Spithead. From this point of view we had a large sweep of the island.—Before us lay the harbour of Brading, bounded by Bimbridge downs to the right, and by St. Helen's to the left.

The scenes from this part are grand beyond description, and too extensive for us to be able to describe their limits.—The coast of Suffex bounded the distance before us, and appeared with every beauty that a distance can be admired for.

We now passed on to Brading downs, and viewed from thence the same scenes we had done from Ashey sea-mark. After re-enjoying that view, we skirted the opposite brow of the downs.—Here the valley of Sandown opened in quite a different garb to what the woody scenes of Ride had just presented to us.

The

The rows of hedges were formal, and too regular to be pleasing. — The only grandeur was the opposite downs of Bonchurch, which rising at Dunnoose, swept away to those of St. Boniface and Appuldurcombe park. — These form noble back grounds, and when you approach nearer, admit of nice pieces being caught from them; as many fore-grounds present plenty of wood and water verging on the brow of their hills.

We next came to the woods of Knighton, the forms of which are beautifully picturesque. — Here the seat of Mr. Bisset broke on our sight. — Few would imagine that such a charming spot could be found in so recluse a dale, and receive any assistance from the hand of art. — Knighton house, though ancient, exhibits much taste and judgment in its construction: — notwithstanding it must have been often repaired, it seems not to have lost an iota of its original beauty. — In the front the windows are all latticed, and retain their antique pillars of stone for their present supporters.

One part of the building is finely variegated by the ivy that binds its gable ends. These gable ends are the only parts that appear disgusting; — there are too many of them; which of course rather hurts than heightens the effect.

On each side of the house there is a range of woods; but a sufficient space is left between them to present some very beautiful prospects. — On one side the hill of St. Catherine's is seen; on the other the downs of St. Boniface. — From the left-hand side, going to the house, a few pieces of water make a very pleasing addition to the foreground, and bring every thing into great harmony.

Here the view breaks, and presents the valley of Newchurch: — the house forming the right-hand screen, — the woods the left, — and water in the middle, — with fine broken ground. The hills of Queen Bower terminate the first distance; — the downs of Bonchurch finish the view; but they rise from this spot with a much greater degree of grandeur than from any point of view we had hitherto seen them in.

The house stands on an elevation considerably above the common level of the earth. — A wall supports the grounds lying at its back; and even a part of the garden is raised by these means to a parallel with it.

The woods to its left form a sweet recess, and invite to a contemplation of the charms which every where present themselves. In such a situation the mind is naturally led to contemplate the enchanting scenes which Nature has spread around; and inspired by the sight,

“To look through Nature up to Nature's God.”

POPE.

In such a moment, how vain and unsatisfactory do the most brilliant scenes of a gay and dissipated life appear!

The trees are large and well grown, and hang in those careless attitudes that convey a sure pleasure to the eye. From such a combination of beauties this place must yield to very few in the island. Its being so contiguous to Newport, and likewise at a convenient distance from all the eastern parts of the island, makes it a chosen spot. The woods are said to have been formerly stocked with a great number of pheasants.

The inside of the house is roomy, and, like its outward appearance, favours of the antique. — A few pictures grace the rooms.

Leaving this sequestered vale, we proceeded to the town of Newchurch, which is situated about a mile from Knighton. — In our way we met with nothing more than its

valley to entertain us; which is well watered, and boasts as rich a soil as any in the neighbourhood.

The entrance to Newchurch is up a hill, rather steep; and without any pretensions to those picturesque beauties we expected to find there. The church is old, but not interesting; nor is there any thing out of the common line in the appearance of the houses, which are chiefly inhabited by tradesmen and labourers.

The view from the church-yard is the best the place affords.—From thence the hills of Gatcombe appear to join those of Arreton, and, blending with Knighton, terminate with Culver cliffs. The valley was the most interesting; after which Knighton house formed the next principal subject; and both were closed by Ashey down.

From hence we passed Queen Bower. On the top of its hill stands a peasant's hut;—but if fine prospects and enchanting objects give a pre-eminence, this spot is more befitting the mansion of a peer. The views from it are nearly the same as those seen from the opposite downs.

Pursuing our way down the bower, we crossed to Asp, where the greatest depth of the valley is plainly perceptible. From thence we passed Cherry gardens, and turned to Landgard, the principal house of which is at present occupied by Mr. Smith, an opulent farmer. The oak and elm groves that surround this mansion render it a pleasant residence. Its views are rather close and contracted, but upon the whole agreeable.

From Landgard we passed close under Shanklin downs, and crossed to Wroxall, a small village near Appuldurcombe. The latter lying directly in our route, and having procured admission tickets, we entered the park and proceeded to it.

SECTION XIV.

APPULDURCOMBE park, the seat of Sir Richard Worsley, is situated in a valley, which takes one of the most extensive courses, and might be considered as one of the principal dales, in the island. Our readers may remember the mention we made of this house when, in our circuit round the island, we took a view of it from the downs of Yaverland and St. Helen's. We then could not so well judge of its situation; but we were now convinced that it was pleasant. The harbour of Brading broke in between the downs of Yaverland and Brading, and presented the coast of Sussex to bind the distance.

Those fences and hedge rows which had disgusted our eye when we looked down upon them from Ashey downs, now viewed from the house, dropped into the focus of each other, and rather resembled a wood than that what they really were. Taken altogether, the situation of Appuldurcombe house is pleasant, but not possessed of that grandeur which results from the ruder boldness of Nature.

This mansion, which is built of freestone, is large and beautiful.—There are four regular fronts to it, of the Corinthian order, the principal of which is adorned with two wings, and has a lawn before it. The offices all lie at the back of the house, where strangers who come to view it usually enter.

The first room we were ushered into, after passing the servants' hall, was the great hall—a most superb and elegant apartment, embellished with the choicest productions of the arts.

Some beautiful pictures adorn the walls, particularly the subject of the Salutation, by Fran. Barbierius, opposite the door; the drawing of which is chaste and spirited;

the colouring dark, but with a fine effect.—Over the fire-place, on the left hand, is the Consecration of a Bishop;—the subject not interesting, but highly finished. These pictures, we understood were purchased by Sir Richard Worsley, when lately abroad.

A portrait by Vandyke, is also in the best stile; as are a Virgin and Child, and several others, by Holbein, Sir Peter Lely, Carracchi, &c. all in the first manner.

The busts likewise display judgment in their selection.—That of the river Nile is an elegant piece of sculpture;—the symmetry of the limbs is graceful, and the whole finely proportioned.—The sixteen Cupids are delicately touched, and equally well grouped.

Several antiques grace the pedestals; among which the Genius of Hercules, the Achilles, and the Bull, are some of the best.

The roof is supported by eight beautiful pillars of the Ionic order, resembling porphyry, highly ornamented.

From hence our guide conducted us to the dining-parlour.—Here we were gratified with a sight of some of the finest pictures ever produced by the pencil of Zuccarelli.—At the extremities of the room hung two of the largest I ever saw by this great master; and, if I may presume to say so, I think them the best.—In my humble opinion, those at Windsor and Hampton Court, from recollection, are not superior.

That on the right hand as you enter the room, has every requisite to render a picture complete;—the composition is grand and elevated;—the figures in the foreground are spirited; and at the same time there is a peculiar softness in the countenance of both the women which stamps an everlasting credit on that knowledge of the passions this master was known to possess.—The only disparity was in the cattle, which were rather out of proportion, by being too long in the back. The buildings are in the stile of Poussin, and happily managed;—the back-grounds are possessed of all the fire and colouring that can set off a picture. Upon the whole, this claims the superiority over every other piece in the room.

Its companion is nearly on the same subject, and beautiful in the extreme.—The light and shadow in this piece, give the spectator a thorough knowledge of the pitch to which painting can be carried.—The others by this master likewise claim attention.

Two by Berghem also grace the room.—It is needless to make any comment on the performances of this well-known master, except just saying that they are in his best stile. I am sorry to be obliged to add, that they are so very highly varnished, that in a few years there is a probability of their being entirely obliterated.—Indeed too many in this collection have undergone that destructive process, to the great disappointment of Time, who would otherwise have handed them down with pleasure to posterity.

We were now conducted to the drawing-room, which is pleasantly situated, and the furniture extremely beautiful. Returning from this room, we entered the library, where nothing besides a figure on the ceiling attracted our particular attention.—This claimed our warmest praise.—The subject is an angel in the attitude of flying.—The colouring is beautiful; the drawing still more so.—One of the legs, which was foreshortened, appeared to be the touch of Cipriani; and indeed the whole of the figure led us to suppose that it was the production of that artist.—But as it was placed so high, we could not take upon us to pronounce to a certainty its master.

We next passed into an interior library, where fresh beauties attracted our notice.—A Sun-set, on one of the highest pannels near the door, was the first object that caught our eyes.—It was a piece of such merit, that we could have viewed it for an hour, without finding the least abatement in our pleasure and admiration.—The subject was a Sea-port, executed in the most finished stile.—The colouring was warm but free from glare;—and so softly blended was the whole, that a completer copy of Nature was never seen.—The vessel in the distance is handled with peculiar judgment, and exemplifies the nice conception of the master.

A whole length of Sir Richard Worsley, in his regimentals, by Sir Joshua Reynolds, hangs in one corner; and a picture by Barrett, of that wonderful spot, Steep-hill, likewise graces the room; together with a few old heads, &c.

The little dressing-room contains a set of Italian views in water colours; among which is an eruption of Mount Vesuvius. There is also a view of the Egyptian Pyramids; with several different views of Athens; all in the highest rank of the art.—These we likewise found were what Sir Richard had lately brought over.

The organ-room boasts also of several beautiful pictures.—One by Reubens, over the door, is in his first stile of colouring;—the half tints are soft and harmonious, and show the excellency of his pencil;—the subject, Nymphs bathing. A large picture of Boors quarrelling, in an excellent stile. One by Palamedes, of a Merry Making, which is placed under the foregoing, has also a claim to merit.

A stoning of St. Stephen, with a Joseph and our Saviour, are pictures in a capital stile. There are two good pieces by Gerard Dow;—the first his usual subject, a woman looking out of a window; the other, his mother at work. A small piece by Van Helmont, of Boors regaling, is in the best stile of that master. The consumptive boy has merit;—but, as well as *consumptive*, the artist surely intended him for a *languishing* one.—Hinting our doubt on this head, we were informed by our guide, that the former was meant to be expressed by the artist.

Passions, or corporeal affections, of a similar tendency, from the similarity of their representation, sometimes cause a doubt of the painter's intentions, especially where no distinguishing traits are to be met with; so the appearance of a consumptive person, and one languishing from extreme sensibility, might be mistaken by the spectator; and he may be led to doubt, as we did, of the painter's design.

Returning to the vestibule, we there also observed several pictures of the first rank. Among them was one of Liberality, by Sir Joshua. What I have already said on a former occasion of the merit of this first of living artists, renders it unnecessary for me to say much of this piece. I cannot forbear, however, observing that the countenance of the female figure, representing Liberality, is such as his brilliant imagination usually forms.—Every beauty shines alike conspicuous; and hard it is to know which is the loveliest feature in her face;—each is so charming, that it bids defiance to the critic; and the *tout en-semble* is such as will be modern at any future date.—The hair, loosely dishevelled, flows partly over the shoulders, and adds beauty to those charms that Sir Joshua is so peculiarly happy in, when he is painting a female from his own imagination.

The picture of Daniel in the lion's den, after the original in the possession of his Grace of Hamilton, is here; but it hangs almost beyond the sight of an indifferent eye.—The original is accounted one of Rubens' master pieces.—Several prints have been engraved from it.

A picture of young Master Worsley, by Mr. Cofway, is over the door.—Time seems to have mellowed the colouring, and to have brought it to the highest perfection.

A Dog

A Dog and dead Fox, by Mr. Elmer, is painted with all the nature the pencil of that gentleman possesses. Several other pieces of great merit also adorn the walls.—A fine statue of Apollo Belvidere stands on the staircase.

With these remarks shall we take leave of the inside of the house, as recent orders from its owner forbid the admission of strangers up stairs; which we could not help lamenting, as we were informed that it contains sixty rooms, and that the walls of most of them are decorated with pictures. But if those in the rooms above are as much obscured by dirt and varnish as the principal part of those we saw below were, we may venture to pronounce it to be throughout the collection of a perfect connoisseur.

I have known many gentlemen purchase at an extravagant price, pictures that have been scarcely visible; as if merit consisted in obscurity.—In particular, I once saw a considerable sum given for a piece by Rubens, which was totally devoid of colouring or design, (as many even of that great master's have been, though these branches of the art were his forte,) while others of far superior merit, by a modern artist, attracted scarcely a look.—With little less prejudice in favour of obscured antiquity, do a great part of this collection seem to have been chosen.

The surest way for strangers to obtain a sight of the inside of this mansion, is by an application to the present possessor of the Bugle inn, at Newport; where, besides procuring the means for partaking of so desirable an entertainment, they will find the comforts and conveniences of a home, though at an inn.

Leaving the house, we now passed through the lodge and the park, towards Godshill.—The entrance into the park is by a handsome gateway of the Ionic order. An obelisk of Cornish granite, of a considerable height, stands in the park, which was erected to the memory of Sir Robert Worsley. One of the views from the house is directed to an artificial castle, placed on a rocky cliff, about half a mile from the park, which is generally known by the name of Cook's Castle. The lodge is a neat plain building.—The keeper's house stands on the left, at the foot of a small copse.

A great deficiency of wood appears through the whole park.—Several small clumps of regularly planted trees straggle in many parts, and afford but little gratification to the sight. And I cannot help here remarking, that in the appearance of this mansion and its environs, there is such an unaccountable want of that combination of objects, to which our Gallic neighbours give the happy term of *je ne sçai quoi*, that not all the art imaginable could raise it, sumptuous as it is, to inspire that pleasurable feeling, which the plain and humble roof of Steephill cottage impresses on the mind at first sight.

The termination of the park breaks rather abruptly, and lets in the hill of St. Catherine's on the left, and on the right those of Cheverton and Brixton.

At Appuldurcombe there was formerly a cell of Benedictine monks, founded by Isabella de Fortibus, about the end of the reign of King Henry the Third. This cell was made subordinate to the abbey of St. Mary de Montisburgh in Normandy, but was dissolved with the rest of the alien priories, by King Henry the Fifth. Previous to its dissolution, it had been given by Henry the Fourth to a convent of nuns, at that time standing without Aldgate, London.

Having passed the park farm, we arrived at the outer gate of the park, leading to Godshill, to which place we proceeded.

SECTION XV.

THE town of Godshill is very neat, though small, and contains a proportionable number of inhabitants.—Its church stands upon an ascent, and gives name both to the place and the parish; and, as the people here say, through a circumstance equally as fabulous as the rising of Shanklin down.

The architecture is partly Gothic, but, through the usual mode of modern beautification, the whole is not to be distinguished. However, when we viewed it, two of its gable ends had just fallen in, which broke the formal appearance of its extremity, and introduced a beautiful specimen of its ancient splendor. The ivy had twisted off many of its disagreeable angles, and added beauty to its Gothic appearance. Its present shattered state might have arisen from its having been struck by lightning in the year 1778, when great damage was done to it. This church was anciently appropriated to the abbey of Lyra in Normandy.

Upon our entering the porch, we observed abstracts from several acts of parliament fixed against the door, and among them one that excited both our curiosity and risibility.—It was from an act made in the seventh of James the First, which enacts, that every female who unfortunately intrudes on the parish a second illegitimate child, shall be liable to imprisonment and hard labour in Bridewell for six months.

Now as the number of females on this island much exceeds that of the males; and as, from the mild temperature of the climate, circumstances frequently arise among the lower ranks that render the intention of this act of no effect; we could not help thinking this public exhibition of the abstract as rather a rigorous exertion of justice.

We found it was not very unusual here for the young men, from the deficiency of numbers just spoken of, to pay their devoirs to more than one young woman at a time; and as it is not possible for him *legally* to unite himself to all of them, he generally bestows his hand on her who had first presented him with a pledge of their love.—This, however, is seldom done till the approach of a second pledge from the same person renders such an act of compassion needful, in order to avoid the consequences of the tremendous anathema fixed on the church door.

Leaving Godshill, we passed the valley to Shorwell, which is but a small spot. Northcourt was the next place we made for. — Here — Bull, Esq. has a seat, which is pleasantly situated, and commands extensive views.

Finding ourselves nearly in a part that we had visited before, during our tour round the coast, and consequently where no fresh information was to be obtained, we turned our horses, and pursued our route up Chillerton-street; from whence we skirted the opposite side of the vale of Gatcombe.

Here every luxuriance that could be wished for, strewed the valley. The spring which rises at the bottom of St. Catherine's, bending its course down the dale, relieved the continued groups of wood lying in its circle. This stream, which is said to be the source of the river Medina, has the honour of being called by that name, long before it can make any pretensions to the denomination of a river.

Chillerton down now frequently bounded our left-hand view; — the opposite valley that led to Sandown, which has been twice described, was hidden for a considerable distance; — frequent interpositions of landscape, however, made amends for the want of
of

of it.—From a little rising ground a beautiful display of the utmost variegation sometimes shone forth till we arrived at Sheat.

On the top of a pleasant rusticated hill, stands a small homely village of this name, where, at a farm-house on the right-hand, opposite to a smith's shop, we met with another instance of the kindness and hospitality of the people of this island; who, I must here again repeat, are not outdone in the exercise of these virtues by the most hospitable and civil of the inhabitants of any other part of Great Britain.—I may truly say, in the words of a writer well known for his knowledge of men and manners, that at most of the farm-houses in this island,

“ — Ev'ry stranger finds a ready chair.”

We have only to add relative to Sheat, that its vicinity is surrounded by small woods, which pleasingly amuse the eye.

Descending a slope of about half a mile, we arrived at Gatcombe house, formerly the seat of Edward Meux Worley, Esq. but now the summer residence of Captain Ratray. This mansion is sheltered at its back by a plantation of pines, and has an agreeable prospect.—It is chiefly constructed of brick, without any external ornaments; but there is a great degree of neatness and simplicity in the appearance of it.

The inside is very roomy, but has neither picture, nor any thing extraordinary in its furniture, to attract particular notice.—However, though it has not to boast of its former splendor, the affability and genteel behaviour of the amiable females resident in it, the benign influence of which is not confined to the vicinity of Gatcombe, still ranks it among the most celebrated mansions of the island.

A fine lawn spreads its verdant turf before the house, and extends to the road.—On its side front a prospect still more charming is seen.—A beautiful piece of water lies in the bottom; and it is agreeably planted with trees.

The opposite downs of Arreton range delightfully to the valley of Newchurch, and finely interpose between the town of Newport and the downs of Appuldurcombe.—The valley receives no little degree of lustre when viewed from Gatcombe.—The hill that overshadows Shide mill is very fine, and produces every thing requisite for a first distance.—Alvington forest forms the second; with an agreeable break of the river Medina between it and Osborne woods.

The river from hence had a singular effect;—while a heavy cloud hung over Alvington forest, the water received the full force of the intervening light, and the distance terminated in a glowing blue, or rather a mixture of colours.

Leaving Gatcombe, we proceeded to Whitcomb, through a hedge-row, which bounded the road on both sides, and passed on till we came within sight of Newport.—Here a different scene presented itself, and gave us a juster idea of the forest than we had as yet imbibed.

From Newport, a valley ran along the bottom of Carisbrook hills for about three miles, where it joined those of Shalfleet, and closed the view at Newtown. Before us, both East and West Cowes were perfectly visible; while Stokes bay and Spithead presented many a swelling sail;—the harbour of Portsmouth and Portsdown hill closing the sight.

SECTION XVI.

TURNING to our left, we now proceeded towards Carisbrook castle, a place rendered famous by the confinement of King Charles the First. — That unfortunate monarch, after being betrayed by Hammond, the governor of the island, became his prisoner, and was confined in this castle. — But as Sir Richard Worsley, in his History of the Isle of Wight, has so fully treated of this subject, and that from such excellent and indubitable authorities, little remains for me to say of the historical part.

On an elevated piece of ground stands this once impregnable fortress. — Nature has contributed very considerably towards its strength, as it is situated in such a manner as to command every point beneath it. — The circumference of the ditch, by which it is surrounded, is about three quarters of a mile, and sufficiently wide to protect it from any attacks that an enemy, at the time it was erected, could make upon it. Though now dry, it was undoubtedly supplied in former times with water.

The citadel appears to be the most ancient part of any in the building. — The time it was founded being a matter of dispute, the following conjectures relative to it may not appear ill founded.

It is well known that the Romans were in possession of this island; and that after them Cerdic, King of the West Saxons, ruled over it; — now as both those people constructed fortifications wherever they fixed themselves, it is more than probable that this fortress, the principal one in the island, and of undoubted antiquity, was originally erected (I mean the most ancient part of it) by the former, and improved by the latter. And if it be admitted that the well in the castle yard is a work of the Romans, which it undoubtedly is, as they always made a point of procuring water though at ever so great a depth, which neither the Saxons nor Normans were so particular about, this puts it out of dispute that they had established a place of defence of some kind or other on this spot.

Little mention is made of it during their time, but in the reign of Cerdic it is said to have been of considerable strength, and in a good state of defence. Some are of opinion that it was originally built by Whitager, one of Cerdic's generals, from whom it took the name of Whitgaraburgh, which was afterwards contracted to Carisbrook; but he might only have enlarged or repaired the Roman rampire, and, as was customary with the Saxons, given a new name to it.

The present structure was built as an improvement to the old fortress, by William Fitz-Osborne, one of the principal commanders in the Norman invasion, and on whom William the Conqueror, as a reward for his zeal and fidelity, bestowed the lordship of the Isle of Wight, and created Earl of Hereford. This nobleman likewise founded the priory here.

The castle and its appendages, from that period, became the property of different possessors, till it came into the hands of Lord Woodville, who sold it to King Edward the Fourth; since which time it has been affixed to the crown. The arms of that nobleman are carved in stone over the large gateway, and on each side are the roses of the house of York.

In the yard of the castle is the well before referred to, the depth of which is said to be three hundred feet; and it has always twenty feet of water in it. The persons who

show the castle, generally let down a piece of lighted paper into the well, in order to exhibit to strangers a singular effect that attends it; a stream of air rushes down into it from the mouth, with such violence, as to extinguish the flame long before it reaches the bottom.

Another circumstance, not less extraordinary, likewise attends it; a pin of a common size being dropped into it, the sound it causes by falling on the water, though at so vast a depth, may be distinctly heard.

The water is drawn up by an afs; who has performed this duty upwards of fourteen years. And the animal that preceded the present, officiated in the same employment (for which purpose alone he was kept) during a much longer period; having lived forty years within the castle walls. The method used in drawing the water is by a wheel of fifteen feet diameter, in which the afs turns as a dog does a spit.

The mention of these creatures leads me to digress for a moment on the longevity both of the brutal and the human species, resident on this island. So kindly is the temperature of the air, that beasts as well as men, frequently live here to a great age. The number of each at present existing, who have exceeded the ordinary limits of life, is very considerable.

Among the former are several horses belonging to some of the inhabitants of Newport, which, if the assertions of their masters may be depended on, are turned of thirty years of age. And scarcely any of these kind of animals but what retain their strength and usefulness from 12 to 20 years. Those used here are in general a small breed, named foresters, natives of the island, which, on account of the rough and stony roads, are found more useful than a larger sort would be.

This castle having fallen greatly to decay from the constant ravages of time, was repaired, and the works enlarged, by Queen Elizabeth. That princess erected a platform towards the back part of it, on which some cannon were mounted. She likewise rebuilt the gateway, and added a bridge at the entrance. On the arch of the gateway, upon a plate of brass, are the initials of that queen's name, E. R. and the date 1598, the year when these additions and alterations were completed. But this plate is now so over-grown with ivy, that not the smallest part of the inscription is to be seen.

During the usurpation of Cromwell it was garrisoned by his forces; and he placed peculiar confidence in those who were stationed there; as may be learned from many circumstances attending the imprisonment of King Charles.

In order to enter the castle by the principal road, you pass through the great gate, which is flanked by two large round towers. This gate and the towers are those mentioned to have been built by Lord Woodville, in the reign of Edward the Fourth. The lattice wicket, though it has been so many years in use, is not in the smallest degree injured by time. Both the inside and outside of it are lined with iron bars, and they must be several tons weight.

Having passed this gate, you enter the castle yard; where on the right hand stands the chapel. From the date over the door, this building was erected in the year 1738; and it stands on the site of one which was in existence before the conquest. It is dedicated to St. Nicholas, and has a cemetery belonging to it; but neither are at present made use of.

On the opposite side, a part of the walls lie in ruins, and more is daily falling to decay.—Near these they shew you the window at which King Charles is said to have attempted his escape. As you proceed, on the same side, is a large modern-built stone house, which was designed for the residence of the governor; but it has been converted

to a hospital for the military.—The present governor, Colonel Lee, we however heard, intends in future to make it his summer residence.—A little farther to the right is the well before described; beyond which are the remains of another old house wherein cattle have been kept.

To the left, in a corner, is a flight of steps that lead to the top of the citadel.—The prospects from hence are very extensive; but as the same scenes have been already described, a repetition of them will be unnecessary. In the inside of this recess are the vestiges of a well, which is said to have been forty fathoms deep; but it is now nearly filled up. The citadel (or, as it was anciently called, the keep) is situated upon a piece of ground considerably higher than any other part; an elevation apparently artificial, and most probably a work of the indefatigable Romans.

We next ascended the ramparts and platform which had been erected during the reign of Queen Elizabeth.—An entirely new scene lies in the valley below these. Though it is but small, a very pleasing variety displays itself in the bottom; and the same is continued round the whole of the remaining walls of the castle, except where time, or the want of materials, have levelled a few of their supporters.

The outward appearance of the castle is very picturesque, and affords many pleasing views.—The ground on which the walls stand is finely broken, and well verdured.

The height of the castle from the valley is at least 300 feet; which gives it every advantage that any spot on this side the range of mountains extending to Yarmouth and Freshwater could possess, both as a place of defence against the weapons anciently used, and at this time as affording a grand and agreeable sight.

Several advantageous views may be had of it from different parts of the village of Carisbrook; and, indeed, for ocular satisfaction, the views from thence are the most admired.—When seen from almost every spot around, it affords a fund of delight to the traveller whose mind is susceptible of the transports which picturesque scenes excite; especially to those who love to contemplate the fretted Gothic arch;—the nodding battlements; or the ruined tower;—all which tend to recall to his memory the ancient state and splendour of the English barons.

Having again passed round the boundaries of this stately relique of the fortresses of former times, we descended to the village of Carisbrook,—which, independent of its delightful situation, is by far the pleasantest village in the vicinity of Newport.—A murmuring stream, bubbling over the pebbles that obstruct its course, becomes a pleasing object for its fore-ground, and adds to the beauties of the place.

To which the church likewise affords no mean assistance; it being the most picturesque in the island.—That which comes nearest to it is the church of Chale;—the latter, however, is not quite so large, nor the appearance of it so much in the Gothic style.—The tower is of considerable height, and it has several spires, or, more properly, architectural ornaments, that greatly embellish it. The large window is much superior to any of those in the other churches of the island. In short, a fine symmetry runs through the whole building, and procures for it that preference it so justly claims.

The houses and cottages in the village are likewise very picturesque, and not only harmoniously pleasing to the sight, but furnish a subject not unworthy of the pencil.

The priory, which is situated near the church, was formerly a convent of black monks. It was at first a cell to the abbey of Lyra, in Normandy;—afterwards to that of Montgrace in Yorkshire;—and at last to the Cistercians at Sheen.

This, with the castle and the church, are the whole of the relics of antiquity here; but it now wants all those additional parts of which it was once composed, to render it worthy

worthy of notice.—The walls are so inconsiderable, and the whole of the remains so meanly formal, that a view of it does not inspire an idea of what it formerly must have been.—The wall on the west side contributes to form a hovel for carts, and is thatched over.—The other parts are covered with ivy, and moss; without one pleasing object around it.

SECTION XVII.

DEPARTING from hence, we entered the road to Yarmouth, intending to skirt all the ridge of hills which we had seen, and have already described, during our prior route from Newtown and Shalfleet to that seaport.

The road, after leaving Carisbrook, is cut on the side of a chalky hill for near a mile; and commands the beautiful vale of Park-hurst, the whole of the way from Park-green, till the eye reaches Shalfleet lake, where the woods of the New Forest range in the distance, and close the view of the intervening part of the Solent.—To our left hand the ridge of mountains commenced, which shoot away towards Allum Bay on one side, and to Afton on the other.

The next spot we came to of note was Park cross;—a most luxurious scene, and possessed of every requisite to make it an inestimable picture. The fore-ground was bounded by a few noble oaks, and a piece of water, relieved by the Downs of Boucombe. The valley was clothed with every tint that the declining sun could diffuse among its vegetations; nor was there in any part throughout the whole a want of water.

The scene at once delighted and amused us; as it consisted of wild Nature scattering beauties over the richest profusion of landscape that could encounter the sight.

On our right the downs rose with splendour, and gave a nobleness to all that was spread beneath them; while the vallies, smiling, as if in gratitude for the bounties which nature had strewed with so unsparing a hand over their surface, contributed their utmost aid to complete the voluptuous scene.

For luxuriance, this little spot claims a superiority over many of the other vales in the island, beautiful and picturesque as most of them are. The sloping banks that form its bounds are sweetly variegated with all that can please the imagination;—the cheering beams of the sun, though declining, shone with unwonted lustre;—the timorous herd, scattered underneath the noble oaks, displayed their spotted vests from amidst the sheltering thickets;—while carefully erect, the more fearful does, attended by their frightened fawns, stood listening to a few noisy village curs that yelped from an adjacent farm: a combination of scenes, warm from the hand of Nature, all tending to impress the mind with those exquisite sensations which are only excited by such calm and tranquil scenes.—Scenes, that while they delight the eye, and elevate the imagination, amend the heart, and dispose it to the exertion of every amiable propensity. For my own part, such scenes afford me greater satisfaction for the instant, than it would be in the power of unbounded empire to bestow.

Such were the pleasures we received from a contemplation of the vale of Alvington. With regret we left these lovely scenes to descend to views which will not bear a comparison with the foregoing.—The hills to our left hung slothfully over us, as if indifferent whether or not they appeared agreeable in our eyes.—A distorted elm, in a falling position, bent its branches to the ground, and seemed conscious of a miserable existence;—while the very flints and chalk that composed the substance of the ground,

greatly added to the inequality that was so visible between them and the valley over which they nodded. At length the willow woods of Swanston in some measure cheered the scene.

On an extensive rising plain stands Swanston-house, the seat of Sir Fitz-William Barrington.—The mansion is plain, but pleasing to the view, and is seen to the best advantage on the road from Newtown leading to Yarmouth. On the right it is encompassed by a tract of woody land, and at its back are the downs of Boucombe, and its own coppices.

The inside of the house is very antique, but remarkably neat.—The staircases and walls are chiefly wainscotted with a wood which we took to be oak or walnut, and were remarkably shining.

From the drawing room there is a fine view over the surrounding country. We found this apartment to be genteel, without any of that heavy grandeur we had seen at Appuldurcombe. A ship piece over the fire place, by Brooking, or Peters, attracted our attention.—It has all the usual spirit of these masters.—The sea is peculiarly well handled.

In the breakfast room there are several ancient portraits of the family, and some of them very highly touched.—One in particular of Jonas Barrington, Esq. painted in 1664, is superior to any of them.

The other rooms on the ground floor are likewise so situated as to command pleasing views of the Solent sea and the New Forest.

In a bed room, on the first floor, we saw a portrait in miniature of the lady of Mr. Barrington, of Whippingham—a most delicate and highly-finished picture.—The attitude graceful, with every charm to render it a master-piece. The artist has been peculiarly happy in the likeness, and he has *almost* done justice to the original.

Passing through the bed rooms, we observed that they were elegant, but, at the same time, without the least appearance of tawdriness; and each had a dressing-room annexed to it.

We now returned over the hill; and passing a delightful range of scenery on the right, with the opening of the north side of Brixton down to the left, made for the village of Calbourne, which is situated at the foot of those downs.

In a triangular recess of elms and ash stands the village, abounding with every pleasure that retirement can furnish, to render it desirable.—The church is simple, without any leading features to attract notice.

At the foot of the hills run several springs, which form a respectable sheet of water, and at length produces a small artificial cascade. The overflowing forms a brook, that has a communication with an arm of the haven of Newtown.

The principal houses here are that in which the reverend Mr. Porter resides, and another situated opposite, and divided from it only by the road, belonging to L. T. Holmes, Esq. mayor of Newport. The latter, generally known by the name of Westover house, stands on an eminence, and has commanding prospects over all the north-west part of the island, as well as towards Alvington and Parkhurst, down to the river Medina. The hospitality of this mansion is too well known to all strangers to need an encomium here.

Leaving Westover to the right, we proceeded into the Yarmouth road, where the hills of Fresh-water, on the left, rose with as much splendour as when we saw them before from Wilmingham.—But as we have already described these scenes in our route from Yarmouth to Fresh-water, a repetition of them will be needless.

We now returned to the road we had pursued before to Newtown; but nothing occurred more than had been surveyed by us in our prior route.

As we are about to complete the account of our tour round the island by land, it may not be amiss to observe, that when we set out from Newport, to pass round the island, we commenced our observations relative to the coast, from Newtown, and omitted to begin at Cowes, (which in fact is the least noticeable, in point of novelty or beauty, of any part on the whole island,) in order to enjoy the scenes from Alvington, which at that time more particularly engaged our attention.

Crossing now the left stream of Newtown at Underwood, we came to Elmsworth, a rural little spot; from whence we had a distinct view of Thorness Bay, part of which has a great variety, and is well wooded. All the opposite shores of Hampshire were those we continually had seen from the interior parts; and though the Solent seemed to be broader, it lost a considerable degree of that grand appearance it had exhibited when seen at a greater distance.

We had, however, several hasty touches of Nature; for the clouds that so frequently surround, as before observed, a September setting sun, twice displayed a perfect piece of composition.—The beams of the sun, darting from behind the distant clouds, touched the higher part of the forest with a soft light, which gradually declined as it advanced towards the water; where all the shore, for a great width, lay in obscurity, as did a part of the sea; till near mid channel, another gleam of light broke forth, and ran through the scene; when, reaching Thorness Bay, it died gently away, and left the land, from the beach to a parcel of oaks that hung over a piece of water in the foreground in an entire shadow.

Passing through Great Thorness, we entered Rue-street, and made for the stone-quarries at Gurnet bay. The soil here is so various, that the substance of it changes almost every quarter of a mile;—sometimes it consisted of a black mould;—then of clay;—now of chalk, gravel, or loam;—and in this manner it varied till we entered the vale of Gurnet marsh.

During the winter the sea makes frequent intrusions on these marshes, and sometimes renders them almost impassable.

Proceeding onward, we arrived at the stone quarries, as they are termed; but the sea, by its incessant attacks, does more towards loosening the stones than the labours of the workmen.—All along the shore runs a vein of very durable stone, a part of which the waves, almost every tide, bring down.

The scene here is totally different from most of the other parts of the coast, forming noble masses of true rock;—but though there is an air of grandeur about them, they are inferior in this respect to those of Allum Bay.

The works at Portsmouth are constructed of the stone from hence.—When the weather permits three or four sloops generally lie in the bay, in order to load with it. Its coat is proof against the unremitting attacks of time, or of the weather. The surface of it is much firmer than that brought from Portland or Purbeck; and it is held in higher estimation by the inhabitants of this island, who construct most of their dwelling houses with it.

Returning from the quarries, we had a most luxurious prospect of the vale that leads from the marshes of Gurnet to Alvington forest. The trees grow down on both sides to its bottom, and it is terminated by the mountains of Carisbrook and Gatcombe.

From hence we struck down to the seat of Mr. Collins, at Egypt, the northernmost point of the island, and passed the land we had so frequently viewed from the Hampshire

shire shores. Eaglehurst and Calshot Castle are the most remarkable objects from hence, and are greatly adorned by the wood and water that encircle them.

Now striking into the road that leads to Cowes, we passed the church, and, descending the hill, entered the town,—having viewed the island in every direction that a horse road would afford.

SECTION XVIII.

“ FROM amber shrouds I see the morning rise ;
Her rosy hands begin to paint the skies ;
High cliffs and rocks are pleasing objects now,
And Nature smiles upon the mountain's brow ;
The joyful birds salute the sun's approach ;
The sun too laughs, and mounts his gaudy coach !
While from his car the dropping gems distil.”—

LEE.

IN an hour like this,—with the mind awake to every sensation such a cheerful morning, amidst such pleasing scenes, could inspire,—did we commence our voyage, in order to take a view of the different shores of the island from the circumambient sea.

We are embarked ;—the sails shiver in the wind—the tide has begun to ebb ;—and we leave the harbour of West Cowes. Stretching to the northward, we cleared Old-Castle point, where, as already mentioned, there was formerly a fortification, of which only a part of the scite at present remains.

The point, as we passed it, received no inconsiderable addition to its beauty from the blooming rays of the morning.—The woods and shrubs by which it is covered, descended to the shore, and produced a clear view of its fascinating banks.—In this respect, the shore was pleasingly lined, without too much formality.

Standing in with it, we passed down the east side of Osborne, of which we had a good view ; as we likewise had of Norris sea-mark.—The former of these is seen to advantage, in one point of view, from the water ; but in all others, its beauties are obscured by the great number of oaks that surround it.

Verging still on the shore, we passed the spot where Barton house stands ; and sailing on, came to the screens of wood that range down the extremities of King key. The principal trees which compose these screens are oaks, and they shone in every luxuriance that a mist, breaking over their tops, through the attractive power of the sun, could produce. A creek enters here, and runs inland for some way ; but it is very inconsiderable, both as to its depth and grandeur.

Continuing our course along the same kind of shore, we arrived at Fishborne creek. This sweet spot we had already coasted from the mill to the sea, as mentioned in a former account of it ; therefore nothing more than we had then seen broke on our sight, except the sun dispelling the vapours of the morning, which hid the highest summits of Ashey down.

We observed with pleasure that the valley was in a perfect light, while the tops of the surrounding mountains were buried in total oblivion by the hazy dew.—Many are the transits of light ; and greatly different are the effects of the morning and evening.—The colouring at these times varies so much, that it requires intense study to convey properly by the pencil every tint which proclaims a sun-rise.

The most forcible tint on the sun's ascending the horizon, is a bright yellow, and entirely free from those reds that attend an evening declination ;—grey gleams usually accompany

accompany its ascension; and if not too strong, they dispel in a short time after it is risen. When these clouds become of a more obstinate texture, they commonly obscure the sun for some time;—at that moment the colouring becomes a deep mazarine blue, with tinges of white above its centre, and strong lines of warm yellow at the bottom.

During all these effects, the sea receives an astonishing diversity of shades, but particularly a bright Saxon green. If the light can break any where on the fore-ground through the cloud, the other parts in shade nearly correspond with the depth of colour in the cloud; while the surf that beats on the shore, being strongly impregnated with sand, shines in a light ochre.

As I have frequently watched the breaking of the morning on the island, I generally observed these effects to be produced; especially in September.—During that month a sun-set gives finer colours than at any other time of the year; which may be attributed to the great strength of the vapours that are then exhaled from the vallies, and produce stronger colours;—and these, when seen in the distance, have all that fire and warmth with which Mr. Louthembourg so finely portrays such scenes after Nature.

This glow in the works of the artist just mentioned, I have often heard severely censured, as being unnatural;—but from the frequent opportunities I have had of comparing his works with the operations of Nature, I may venture to say, that he approaches as near to Nature as any living artist. And although his works have furnished a subject for the satirical pen of Peter Pindar, I must add, that I should be happy if I could discern as much true taste and judgment in the pen of the latter, as in the elegant and natural pencil of the former.

Passing Fish house and the woods of Quarr abbey, we tacked to the eastern extremity of the Mother Bank, where the view extended from the entrance of Southampton water to that of Portsmouth harbour.—Little else presented itself more than what we had seen on our passage to the island.

A large recess of water intrudes on the lands near Quarr abbey.—Here was formerly a stone quarry of some consideration, but now little use is made of it.

Still coasting the island, we passed the village of Ride, which, as already observed, exhibits a perfect *fac simile* of Vangoen's designs. The houses hang on the water's edge, with a few formal trees about them;—they appear to be small,—many of them mere cabins. Nothing interesting is visible near this place.

We continued tacking till we made Appley, where several points break at once on the sight. The shore here is very rocky, and formerly produced a great quantity of durable stone; but as the beach is very dangerous, and it was deemed unsafe to venture on it, the principal quarries worked at this time on the island are those of Gurnet.

A little farther on is Old Fort, where the land is more diversified.—Near it are some salt works.

The same kind of shore presented itself till we had got beyond Nettlestone Priory.—A great quantity of rock has here fallen from the cliffs, and tinged by the iron ore that lies among it, gives a diversity of colouring.—The shores are also strongly infused with copperas, and have frequently a similar appearance to what we saw at Alum Bay; but they have not that variety of boldness. Just at the bottom of the hill of St. Helen's we had a good view of the Old Church sea-mark, which we gave some account of when treating of that spot.

Crossing

Crossing from St. Helen's point to that of Bimbridge, we had a very distinct view of the vale which reaches from Brading to Appuldurcombe. We have already observed, that the great quantities of sand which is continually drifting into the harbour off the mouth of which we now were, had rendered ineffectual every attempt to make it a receptacle for ships of burden.—Many experiments for that purpose, excited by the apparent utility of the plan, have been made; but they have all proved fruitless.

Leaving the sandy point of Bimbridge, we next came to the eastern extremity of the island, to which the name of Foreland point is given.—Here the cliffs begin to assume another appearance, with regard to the soil.—A fine sandy beach extends the whole of the way from the Foreland, over Bimbridge ledge, to Culver cliffs.

These cliffs are very high, and, like those of Freshwater, appear white and grey, with small interpositions of verdure clinging to their surface.—They are inhabited as already noticed, chiefly by gulls.—This species having been driven by the puffings and other birds from Mainbench and the Needles, take up their residence here; and one peculiarity relative to them is worthy of notice:—It is not uncommon to see many hundreds of them floating on the water, without any other motion than the billows occasion; during which they keep in a direct line, not one of them being in the least before the other, and in a close compacted order;—the young ones especially sometimes preserve this regular position for many successive hours.

Wild ducks are also found on this coast in great profusion; but it is very difficult to get near them, as they dive at the most distant approach of danger;—the only time to get a shot at them, is the moment they recover the surface of the water from their immersion,

In this cliff there is a cavity, which the country people tell you was formerly a hermit's cell; but from its situation, with regard to the tide, which frequently flows into it, I somewhat doubt the validity of these good peoples conjecture.—The hole extends to a considerable depth, but has nothing to recommend it to notice, except its dreary fides.

As we skirted along Sandown bay, as close to the shore as the depth of water would permit, we found that the bottom consisted of a fine hard sand, and ran off with a gradual descent from the cliffs.—The downs of Yaverland, viewed from it, appeared very high, and gave a noble effect to the bay.

SECTION XIX.

THE next attractive object from the water is the beautiful situation and prospect of Mr. Wilkes's seat.—When viewed from hence, it has a much handsomer appearance than from any nearer point;—and much I doubt which claims the preference,—the view of it from the water, or its own prospects of the water.—Indeed both are alike interesting and deserving of notice.

More to the southward of the valley the rocks assume a deeper die, and a part of them are perfectly black.—This appearance arises from the nature of the soil, which, from the pieces of earth found on the beach, much resembles slate, only of a darker hue, and of a softer texture. Shewing some specimens of this earth to a gentleman well versed in natural history and mineralogy, he informed us, that wherever such a substance is met with, it is a certain indication that veins of coals are near. This information seems to confirm the account we had before received, of there having formerly

merly been coal mines in these parts belonging to the Worsley family, but which had long ceased working, the produce of them not having proved adequate to the expence.

Joined to the several specimens of minerals, we observed the rocks at low water to be covered with weeds of uncommon brightness, which proved a fine contrast to the gloomy colouring of the cliffs.

A fish of a peculiar nature, called a sand eel, is found in this bay, and here only;—in size they seldom exceed three or four inches; are very thin; and resemble a smelt, both in colour and fragrance.—The manner in which they are taken is very simple.—The fishermen, at low water, turn up the sand with a three-pronged fork; when the fish, which lie buried therein, leap out, and are taken.—Great quantities are caught here by this method.

Another particular species of fish is likewise seen here in equal abundance, to which they give the name of Sandhopper, from its motion, which consists of a hop or bound, like that of a grasshopper; in all other respects it resembles a shrimp, as well in make as in colour. At low water they lie in vast numbers on the shore, and furnish the hogs in the neighbourhood with an excellent and nutritious repast. As soon as the tide goes down, many of these animals resort regularly to the beach, where they devour them with great voluptuousness.

As we passed Shanklin Chine, it lost no share of its grandeur, but rather appeared to greater advantage; especially the ascents of Horse lodge; which form the southern extremity of this bay.—The sides of these are abruptly broken, and are pleasingly irregular; with frequent traces of channels caused by the impetuous streams of torrents. The colouring with which the surface of this rock is tinted, is in general black and cold, without a sufficient quantity of shrubs or moss to variegate it.

The next object that attracted our attention was Dunnose, a point of rocky land lying to the southward of Luccombe Chine. The shore here is thickly strewed with iron ore and copperas, and has a very disagreeable appearance from the water.

Over this, when the vessel kept to windward, in order to weather the point, the downs of Luccombe and St. Boniface seemed to clash near on its awful pendant sides; and appeared a terrific object.—The ascent of this tremendous rock, from low-water mark to the top of the downs is near seven hundred feet.—Some idea of its extreme elevation may be formed from the appearance of the sheep that graze on its sides.—Viewed from the vessel we were in, as she was sailing on, at no great distance from the shore, they appeared like small white dots, devoid of all resemblance to their natural shape.—Even the adjacent chine of Luccombe did not command that attention as when you descend it from its vale.

On account of the great number of rocks which stretch from hence into the sea, this coast is dangerous for ships of burden, and hazardous to any vessel larger than a wherry.

The day beginning to close very fast, when we had reached thus far, we found ourselves obliged to make for Steephill, in order to pass the night.—The coast continued all the way to that place in the same rugged uncouth stile; forming nothing but cliffs, and a few waterfalls.—Of these we had not a sufficient sight when we passed it before in our land excursion, but being now on a level with it, we were able to pay more attention to it.

Some of the cliffs are white, others more of a clayey nature, but equally picturesque, being adorned with clinging shrubs.—A few boat-houses belonging to fishermen,

men, with their baskets for catching crabs lying near them, are the chief objects, except the rocks that adorn the fore-grounds, and two or three staved boats.—A small waterfall likewise, that forced itself over a large stone, and made its way to the sea, rushed very rudely and picturesquely through a few shrubs, which encircle its course, and thrive with the nutriment it affords.

The hills of Bonchurch appeared as a very pleasing contrast to the white cliffs which bordered on the shore, together with noble masses of rocks, finely variegated with moss, ivy, and young sucklings.—The cottages in sight have every rude beauty befitting so admirable a composition, and rather add sublimity to the subject than otherwise.

With great caution our seamen conducted us to Ventnor mill.—This object loses its precedence when seen in any other point of view than near;—indeed nothing but its novelty entitles it to attention.

This mill, at its head, has a double pond; and when, through a heavy rain, the water pours with universal violence from the mountains, the people belonging to it immediately give it vent, otherwise the whole fabric would be washed into the sea.

The variety that is visible between Culver cliffs and this spot exceeds credibility.

The wind dying away, and the tide making in very strongly from the westward, we now betook ourselves to a wherry, and landed under Steephill.

We had once before taken up our residence at the inn at Steephill; and then, as well as now, we met with every accommodation we could wish for;—and, upon occasion, three or four travellers may be accommodated for the night;—but when a party visits it, I would hint to them, that more than the foregoing number cannot sleep there with convenience.

The house of the Honourable Mr. Tollemache, before described, is from hence a desirable object, but too much secluded from the sight by the quantity of wood that surrounds it.—At a greater distance I have not the smallest doubt of its becoming still more interesting.—And indeed we found this observation verified upon looking back, as we passed it, the next day.

The hills of Steephill range with great beauty, when viewed from the sea, and are not much surpassed by any in the island.—What most claimed our admiration in this spot was the combination of the rocks, and, at the same time, the diversity of them.—At Allum Bay scarce any shrubs cover the rocks there; they are not however less beautiful on that account; for as they lie in large masses, shrubs meanly scattered would only ruin the effect.

Here the rocks are solid, with squarer angles; they are notwithstanding finely harmonized, and abound with all the boasts of Nature to complete the sight. This part would suffer much in beauty were it not for the verdure which skirts its sides.—Immense dells would otherwise continually present what Nature has so happily thrown into shadow, and thus relieved the eye from being hurt by its defects.

SECTION XX.

IN the morning we re-embarked, and stood again to sea, in order to avoid the dangerous consequences of its rugged bottom near shore.—When the tide flows gently in, and the water just covers the tops of these lurking rocks, unless you have a fisherman, or at least a native of the coast, with you, you stand a chance of having your boat stove

stove by them.—Even experienced seamen are disagreeably situated when they land here, without being well acquainted with the coast.

Proceeding now close to the shore of Undercliff, or Underwath, as the country people sometimes term it, we found the appearance of the coast very changeable, but highly tinted with its hanging woods and variegated soil.—At every avenue that would admit of it, some broken bold promontory struck the sight, and continually closed the side screens.—These mountainous tracks often presented greater beauties when seen from the sea, than when we were between them and the cliffs that bordered on the strand.

At the time we had passed Undercliff on horseback, the shore was entirely hid from us, and we could see nothing but the downs, which hung shelving over our heads;—but now we reaped every advantage that distance could give, as it blended the heights with all that composes landscape; namely, rock, wood, mountains, and water.

The village of St. Lawrence presents a greater degree of novelty than of grandeur: it however serves to relieve the disagreeable appearance that the shore is at intervals possessed of. A number of boat-houses are seen, belonging to the fishermen; who, between the employment of fishing, which they follow as often as the weather will permit, and occasional labour on shore, gain a comfortable winter subsistence.

We observed here the small cascade, which, as already mentioned, had been magnified, by a gentleman who wrote a tour round the island, into a size that impressed the mind with the expectation of seeing a Switzerland cataract.—Though in point of magnitude it is far short of what, from that account, we were taught to expect, it is upon the whole pleasing.—The shrubs that grow from its sides act in harmony with the other parts, and give an agreeable glow to the rest of the tints,—making a small desirable study.

Still tracing the shore, we met nearly with the same objects that had ranged the foregoing parts, particularly the rocks and shrubs, till we came to the rocks which terminate the range of Undercliff, near Crab Niton.

We have already mentioned that the village of Niton receives the additional denomination of *Crab*, from the fish of that name, which abound on its shore;—but we did not then add, as we should have done, that this term gives great offence to the inhabitants, who generally conceive that it is meant to denote their being *crabbed*, or illnatured.—They therefore, whenever their place of residence is mentioned, and the word crab attached to it, immediately take offence, and are ready to resent the supposed indignity.

The fact is, that the term is given to it to distinguish it from another place in the island, which sounds the same, though it is not spelt in the same manner; namely, Knighton, near Newchurch, where Mr. Bisset's seat is. We have been thus particular relative to so trivial a circumstance, as the want of a knowledge of it might subject a stranger, who may inadvertently ask the road to it, to a churlish reply, if not to a downright affront.

The break of rocks from the termination of Old Park to that of Niton down, where it again commences, is near half a mile.—The opening leads to the Newport road; and likewise to Godshill and Whitwell, which lie behind the downs that encircle the shore.

A little farther to the westward, we arrived at the southernmost point of the island, well known both by the name of St. Catherine's and Rocken-Race end;—a part that could not but be agreeable to us, as near it we experienced the hospitality of the farmer,

mer, whose benevolence and enviable situation we have before spoken of and would, wish to commemorate upon all occasions.

These rocks, which finally terminate the range of Underwath, are higher than any of the others.—Sir Richard Worsley says, that the hill of St. Catherine's, from its top to the water's edge, measures seven hundred and fifty feet;—judging from its appearance, I think the depth rather greater.

When viewed from even a small distance, they appear more like fortifications than any other object I can think of.—Joined to the awfulness which they naturally inspire, they possess an eminent degree of that specimen of Nature we seldom meet with. The terrific ascent of St. Catherine's is well verdured; and though bold in its declination towards the sea, has nothing disgusting in its appearance.—A valley, apparently formed by art, ranges round the westernmost part of it.—Near the bottom, on the easternmost side, is a fertile spot, with several cottages on its cheerful brow.—The trees also exhibit a convincing proof of the prevalence of the westerly winds, as they all bend their lofty tops towards the mountains.

Having weathered the point of Rocken end, an entire new scene presented itself.—Chale's dangerous bay first encountered the sight.—Of this we had taken a thorough view before, and nothing new was observable, but a still greater deformity in its uncouth, restless, billowy shore.

The principal objects from it are Walpan and Blackgang chines, with the dropping well of the latter.—All this part is possessed of that kind of appearance which, while it excites horror, still pleases the imagination; as we see Nature running riot, and overleaping all bounds.—But while she thus pleases the speculative traveller, she appears terrific to those whom chance or accident may drive upon the coast. When viewed from the shore, the rolling billows, tinged with refracted rays of light, convey exquisite pleasure to the mind; but at the same time they may be fraught with destruction to the unfortunate mariner.—There is scarcely perhaps a spot in the universe more peculiarly adapted to excite these opponent sensations than Chale bay.

Little of novelty is to be met with from hence to Freshwater, except the small variation in the downs of Brixton and Cheverton.—The valley between these downs and the sea is entirely hid from the sight.

Passing Atherfield point and Compton chine, we entered the bay of Brixton, where the sea rolled in with increased fury, and became really tremendous:—its foaming billows tore up the sand on the beach, and died the water; giving, at the same time, a specimen of their usual depredations on the shore. There is great reason to believe, that if the sea continues these incursions with the incessant violence it has done for the last ten years, that in a few centuries this bay will vie with that of Sandown in extent, though it will never be able to equal it in grandeur or nobleness.

The chine named Jackman's, is the principal one in the bay.—This leads to Brixton village, where the brook already described, passes through from Mottistone.

Still coasting on, we passed Brook chine and Compton village, when we reached the bay of Freshwater, the romantic beauties of which had before excited our warmest feelings; and these we now re-enjoyed.—Here the craggy rocks of Undercliff are entirely lost to the sight.

All the way from the cave along the Main bench, are a number of chasms in the cliffs, some rent half way down, with continual recesses and caves at the bottom. Va-

rious kinds of the exotic feathered race are their inhabitants; who, like the solitary lapwing, avoid the haunts of man.

Few places can produce a finer study for reflections.—The rocks, though not picturesque themselves, have great charms when imprinted on the subjacent mirror; their tints are then finely harmonized, and give noble broad effects of shadow.—They are composed, in a great measure, of grey flint, which, when blended with the shrubs, is rather pleasing than picturesque.

Several springs, that flow from the sides of the mountain, precipitate themselves into the sea; but they all appear too contemptible for the pencil.

Passing the cliffs of Main bench, we once more arrived at the Needles, and from thence entered Allum bay; but were obliged to keep a considerable distance from the shore, as we had done all the way from Steephill. From the water the land has a remarkably beautiful and picturesque appearance.—Its variegation and sudden knolls are not among the least of its beauties.—The abrupt ridges, and small falls of water, are also very interesting.—When a stream issues near five hundred feet from the surface of the ground, and precipitates from that height, though it might be but small, it cannot fail of giving pleasure to the spectator.

Such a fall may also be accounted picturesque, though it does not deserve the appellation of grand.—The continual interruption the stream meets with from the clumps that accidentally lie in its way, are, however, of great utility to an artist.—It is only enlarging the stream and diminishing the rocks, and a representation of this spot in a picture might delude you into a belief that it was a Switzerland beauty.

These little liberties are allowable to an artist, except when an exact representation of the spot is required;—and even then he may enlarge the waterfall to any dimensions, as in the rainy season it is a perfect torrent; but when the swell is over, it assumes its former moderate size.

SECTION XXI.

THE appearance of the coast is nearly the same throughout the whole way to Totland bay and Warden ledge, with only a small variation in parts where the devastation of the ocean has implanted a greater degree of horror. It is not uncommon to see large crags overhanging a broad beach, the sea having undermined them for a considerable depth, and left clumps of earth and stones, so firmly cemented, that they sometimes hang in this position for many months, terrific in appearance, and a dread to the miners.—We were however assured that they seldom remain in this state above two winters, and even when brought to a level, they are for a long time a continual nuisance.

The point of Carey's sconce introduced us to Yarmouth road.—This is the nearest projection of the island to the neck of land on which Hurst castle stands.—It was between these two points that, according to some writers, waggons loaded with tin used to pass over at low water, in order to transport that metal from Cornwall to this island, from whence it was shipped to France.—An absurdity that, in my opinion, is too apparent to need refutation.

For, as a convincing proof that this strait could never have been passable for carriages, it is to be remarked, that the tide always begins to flow at the Needles before it is low water in Portsmouth harbour; consequently there must always be a considerable depth of water here.

From

From this circumstance it is highly improbable that a passage was ever attempted here.—Besides, we find that Southampton was one of the first sea ports erected on the western coast, and that it was, from the earliest times, the mart to which foreign ships resorted.—So that there does not appear to have been any occasion for the Cornish people to bring their tin by so hazardous a passage to the Isle of Wight, in order to export it.

It has likewise been thought by some that this point of land was anciently united to that on which Hurst castle stands; but from this opinion I must also beg leave to dissent.—From the depth of the channel, the solidity of the bottom, and the non-appearance of any broken rocks, like the Needles, on either shore, I think I may venture to say that the conjecture does not seem to be well founded.

If such an union ever did exist, it must have been at a very early period;—but then, as it is most reasonable to suppose such a separation to have been occasioned by some violent concussion of the earth, it might have been expected that marks of so sudden a disjunction would still have been visible.

Yarmouth road is much frequented by His Majesty's cruizers, that are stationed in the channel for the prevention of smuggling; and whose efforts in that point, to the satisfaction of the fair trader, have lately been attended with great success.

They are peculiarly indebted for this benefit to the commander of the *Hebe*, whose courage, prudence, and humanity, are so conspicuous, as to have gained him not only the esteem of those to whom his exertions are serviceable, but even of the smugglers themselves. So much celebrated is he for the latter virtue, that happening while there to mention the name of the captain of the *Hebe*, I was asked by a seaman present, whether I meant the *lenient Thornborough*.

Yarmouth is also well known to the gentlemen of the navy for the hospitality of a naval officer's house in that town, whose owner, I believe, seldom wants company while a man of war lies in the road.

Leaving the river Yar, or, as it is generally called, Freshwater lake, on our right, we continued to skirt the coast; which, for a considerable distance, exhibits one of those unmeaning features in landscape that neither attracts nor pleases the sight. The beach is comfortless, with a few insignificant broken masses and clumps; but it wanted at this time both colouring and verdure.

About two miles from Yarmouth it assumes a gayer face, as it here forms the northernmost ridge of mountains; but from the sea they are soon lost to the sight, and appear to fall rather picturesquely. These mountains chiefly encircle the water of Shalfleet, and, when seen from Newtown, are a leading beauty to the lake.

A quantity of limestone, and abrupt promontories, constitute the character of this shore, and in many parts it is well tinted. In not a few of these scenes there was, however, a want of variety to make them interesting; for we often saw noble masses of earth in picturesque shapes, and pleasingly irregular, but, at the same time, devoid of the principal beauty, that of colouring.

One spot gives you a chill, comfortless, gloomy black; another, perhaps, is of an ochre; and these tints of themselves are insipid; but when the former has thrown off its first surly appearance, and verges towards a grey, collecting about it a few briars and weeds, it then becomes poetical, and gives satisfaction.

These scenes are very frequent, and they must be accounted for by supposing that Nature has just massed her dead colouring.

The

The ochre of itself is likewise hurtful to the eyes when divested of the fragments of lovely moss and clinging lichens; and, if any thing, less pleasing than the form *r*;—but, on the other hand, just cast its natural shrubs upon it, with here and there a small chasm, and an abrupt piece of limestone, over which the verdure ruggedly falls in pleasing confusion, and it immediately becomes a study.

In short the sports of Nature are so various, that I scarcely remember to have ever seen, in the distance of half a mile, two spots so exactly resembling each other. It is but a weary fruitless jaunt to endeavour to overtake Nature. Imagination presents to my view an artist who has arrived at a scene, where, after having used his utmost efforts, he produces a copy that nearly exceeds the original;—and he thinks himself peculiarly happy: but on doubling a small cape or promontory, a fresh scene presents itself, that baffles all his skill, and damps every expectation of being able to out-do it.—Yet still the mind of man is Nature; and while he pursues nobler objects than he can describe or portray, he gives us a faint emblem of Nature attempting to exceed herself.

But few novelties are to be seen along this joyless shore.—The sea forms several small bays, which rather alleviate the coarse lines of the cliffs, and raise the imagination to expect at every curve some brilliant copse, or towering hill, to ease the wearisome lines.

Passing the flat point of Newtown haven, we entered Shalfleet lake, where splendid hills encircle the un sullied serpentine mirror.

From thence we proceeded to Thornes bay, the shores of which are more picturesque, and are assisted by the principal beauties of landscape, viz. a profusion of wood and rock. The coast continues edging towards the north, and forms several recesses, where frequent rills rush down the uncouth cliffs.

Weathering another point, we entered Gurnet bay; the repository, as before observed, of the stone with which the fortifications of Portsmouth are constructed.—We found here two boats loading with the produce of the quarries, which, as likewise observed, daily attend from that place.

The only part of this bay that afforded an agreeable picture of the land, was from the opening which looks towards the Carisbrook hills. The valley is extremely fertile and well wooded, and ranges in pleasing forms till the mountains close the sight.

This scene is peculiarly picturesque towards the conclusion of the day, when the shadows are broad and the colouring chaste; at other times it appears rather crowded and confused;—but when seen with a proper colouring, it is equal to any of the rural scenes of the island.

The time of the day, when we view an object in landscape, and the colouring then on it, prepossesses us in its favour, or prejudices us against it.—Thus what is all beauty in a morning sun, is obscurity in the evening.—Therefore if a scene which is grand and noble presents itself, I always make a point when time will admit, to take a view of it both at the dawn and at the close of day; and, from such an attention, stronger ideas, I am convinced, may be imbibed even from one scene, than from many, partially viewed.

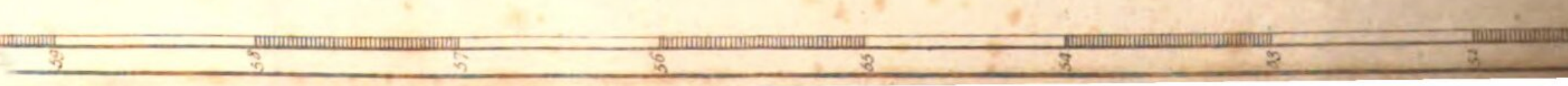
Stretching now for the Brambles, we tacked, and once more passed Cowes castle; when we entered the harbour, having received the highest satisfaction from an aquatic tour of two days, during which we had encircled the island, and taken a view of the different scenes it exhibited from the sea.

We have now finished our account of this pleasant, fertile, and happy spot; and from the observations we had an opportunity of making during our stay there, we were

confirmed in the opinion which had induced us to visit it,—that for beautiful and picturesque views, select parts of it are scarcely exceeded by those on any other of the coasts.

The pleasing variety of hill and dale with which it abounds,—the delightful situation of the gentlemen's seats,—the venerable remains of antiquity,—the rich and extensive sea views that every where present themselves,—and, above all, the grand and noble craggy cliffs, which at once serve as a natural fortification to the island, and exhibit the most magnificent and awful scenes ;—all these combined must naturally excite the curiosity of every admirer of the superb works of Nature ;—and, at the same time, they account for the frequent visits that are made to the island.—Indeed I know not where a party engaged on a pleasurable scheme could find their expectations more fully gratified ;—to which, I think I might add, the natural civility and hospitality of the inhabitants at large do not a little contribute.

SCILLY
ISLES.



A NATURAL AND HISTORICAL ACCOUNT OF THE ISLANDS OF SCILLY;

DESCRIBING

THEIR SITUATION, NUMBER, EXTENT, SOIL CULTURE PRODUCE, RARITIES, TOWNS, FORTIFICATIONS, TRADE, MANUFACTURE, INHABITANTS.

THEIR GOVERNMENT, LAWS, CUSTOMS, GRANTS, RECORDS, AND ANTIQUITIES.

The Importance of those Islands to the British Trade and Navigation; the Improvements they are capable of; and Directions for all Ships to avoid the Dangers of their Rocks.

Illustrated with a new and correct DRAUGHT of those Isles from an actual Survey, in the Year 1744, including the neighbouring Seas, and Sea-Coasts, next the Land's End of Cornwall.

TO WHICH ARE ADDED,

The Tradition of a Tract of Land, called Lioness, devoured by the Sea, formerly joining those Isles and Cornwall. Of the Cause, Rise, and Disappearance of some Islands.

By ROBERT HEATH,

An Officer of His Majesty's Forces, some Time in Garrison, at Scilly. London, 1750, 8vo.

An Estimation* of the Quantity of Land in Acres, contained in each Island, according to the Map.

Five large Islands inhabited by about 1400 People.	1	St. Mary	1520	{ besides the garrison 120 Acres joined to the Isthmus.
	2	Tresco	880	
	3	St. Martin	720	{ besides the Gugh, 60 Acres joined at low Water.
	4	St. Agnes	510	
One Family	5	Bryer	330	
	6	Sampson	120	
4 Scattered Islands bearing Grass.	7	St. Helens	80	
	8	Tea	70	
	9	White Island	50	
	10	Annet	40	
10 Eastern Islands, stocked with Conies, and fit for feeding Cattle in Summer.	11	Great Arthur	30	
	12	Great Ganilly	20	
	13	Great Gannick	18	
	14	Minewithen	15	
	15	Nornour	13	
	16	Little Arthur	7	
	17	Little Ganilly	6	
	18	Little Gannick	5	
	19	Ragged Island	5	
	20	Innifvols	4	
7 Scattered Islands placed about the largest.	21	Mincarlo	12	
	22	Guahall	10	
	23	Northwithel	9	
	24	White Island near Sampson	7	
	25	Round Island	3	
	26	Scilly Island	1	
	27	Rat Island	0½	

Sum Total 4485½

{ The half, 2242¾ Acres, at least, are tillable and improveable.

N. B. Besides the above, which are most noted, there may be numbered about a dozen very small Islands bearing grass; and Rocks innumerable above water.

* The introductory observations, and directions to navigators, are omitted, as little interesting to the general reader.

Several of these islands afford tin, and some also lead and copper. The tin is discoverable by the banks next the sea, where the marks of the ore, in some places, are visible upon the surface: this I was assured by some very considerable Cornish tinnerns, in the year 1744; who desired me to make representation thereof to the present proprietor, for obtaining his lordship's consent for their working of tin and other metals in Scilly, wherein they proposed a certain share to his lordship free of expences; but I did not then succeed.

The islands of Scilly are denominated from a very small island, near them, first called by that name; probably from its situation, near dangerous rocks, similar to the rock Scylla, near Sicily; mentioned by * Virgil. And it is observable, that Scilly and Sicily have resemblance of situation, in lying respectively at the feet of their neighbouring tracts of Cornwall and Italy; supposing each of those tracts to have the figure of a human leg.

Scilly islands were antiently called † Sillinæ Insulæ; for Severus Sulpitius, relating that Instantius, a factious and seditious heretic, was banished by Maximus, the Roman Emperor, expresses himself in these words: *Ad Sillivam Insulam ultra Britannicum deportatus.*

They were also called, by the ancient Greeks, † Hesperides and Cassiterides, from this western situation, and abounding with tin. And § Silures by Solinus; Sigdeles by Antoninus; by the Dutch, Sorlings; and in several of the Tower records, and manuscripts of antiquity, Sully, or Sulley; which last name is probably a contraction from Insulæ, as isles from islands. And in some grants, or charters, they are called our Isles. The antients had a custom of deriving one name from another by transposition of letters, for signifying such things as were supposed some way to have a relation. The rock Lisia, mentioned by Antoninus, lying between Scilly and the Land's End of England, by transposition makes Silia. This rock is called also, by the inhabitants thereabouts, Lethowso, or Gulf; and its making a great noise, like the rock Scylla near Sicily, by the tides rushing against it, is signified by Lis, or Liso, or more properly the antient British word Llais, which last being transposed makes Sylla; whence might come our present Scilly, as lying near it, about which are many rocks of similar nature. But waving this trifling custom of authors, in finding out derivations, these islands were first discovered by Hamilco, a Carthaginian, belonging to the Silures, a Phœnician colony in Spain; as Solinus reports. He was employed by that state to search the western coasts of Europe. And Dionysius Alexandrinus speaks thus of the Hesperides, our present Scilly.

αὐτὰρ τῷ ἀκρῷ
Ἴσην ἢ ἐνέπασσι καρὴν ἐμεν Ἑυρωπείης
Νῆσας Δισπερίδας τό τε κασσιτεροιο γενεθλῆ
Ἀφνειοὶ ναιεσὶν ἀγανονπαῖδες Ἰσῆρων.

Translated by Priscian.

*Sed summam contra sacram cognomine dicunt
Quam caput Europæ, sunt flammæ pondere plenæ
Hesperides, populus tenuit quas fortis Iberi.*

* Lib. 3. v. 246. Æneid. v. 420. 555. 685.

† Camden's Britannia. Virg. Æneid. Lib. 3.

‡ Camden's Britannia.

§ Ptolemy, in his Geography, calls the Welch of Bulleum, (a Town in Brecknockshire) Silures.

Against the sacred Cape, great Europe's head
Th' Hesperides along the ocean spread;
Whose wealthy hills with mines of tin abound,
And stout Iberians till the fertile ground.

They were called Ostrymnides, by Festus Avienus in his poem *De Oris Maritimis*, or *Book of the Coasts*, wherein he writes:

*In quo Insulae sese exerunt Oestrymnides
Laxe jacentes, et metallo divites
Stanni atque Plumbi: multa vis hic gentis est;
Superbus animus, efficax solertia
Negotiandi cura jugis omnibus
Nolusque cymbis turbidum late fretum,
Et belluosi gurgitum oceani secant.
Non his carinas quippe pinu texere
Facere morem non abiectum ut usus est,
Curvant Phaselo: sed rei ad miraculum
Navigia juncis semper aptant pellibus,
Corioque vastum saepe percurrunt salem.*

The isles Oestymnides are clustering seen,
Where the rich soil is stor'd with lead and tin.
Stout are the natives, and untam'd in war,
Their study profit, trade their only care.
Yet not in ships they drive the scaly train,
Nor with bold vessels brave the stormy main.
Unskill'd in arts to use the lofty pine,
Untaught to build, or stubborn plank to join,
They skim remote, the briny swelling flood,
With leathern boats, contriv'd of skins and wood.

These kind of boats were used *anno* 914, for we read of certain pious men transported from * Ireland into Cornwall, in a Carab, or Caroch, (the same with Corracle) made of two hides and half; or, according to some, of three hides and half. This account takes notice of about 145 islands called Scilly; but ten chiefly, besides abundance of hideous rocks, and huge stones above water, placed in a kind of circle, clad with grass, or covered with a greenish moss; some affording many sorts of cattle, corn, fowl, &c. but most stocked with rabbits, herons, cranes, wild swans, and sea fowl. The largest takes its name from St. Mary, where is a castle built by Queen Elizabeth, *anno* 1593, called Stella Maria, or Star Castle, with a garrison. This island is about eight miles round: the rest were called Rusco, Brefer, Agnes, Annoth, Sampson, Silly, St. Helen's, St. Martin, and Arthur. And two lesser called Minan-witham, and Minuissifand, which seem to derive their names from mines. Strabo, in his third book of Geography, says, the isles Cassiterides are ten in number, close to one another, and situated in the ocean, to the north of the port Artabri (i. e. Galicia) in Spain. That one of them is desert and unpeopled, and the rest inhabited by people wearing black cloaths, and coats reaching down to their ancles, girt about their breasts, and with a staff in their hand, like the furies in tragedies. That they lived by cattle; and straggled up and down like them without a fixed abode, or habitation. That they had mines of tin and lead, which commodities they used to barter with merchants for earthen vessels, salt, and instruments of brass. And Eustathius, from Strabo, calls these people Melan-

*Such were the saints Dubslane, Machecu, and Manslunum, who, according to Matthew of Westminster, forsook Ireland, thrusting themselves to sea in a boat made of three ox hides and half, with seven days provisions, and miraculously arrived in Cornwall; as St. Warna arrived at St. Agnes island in Scilly.

chlani, from their wearing black cloaths down to their ancles. These are the islands which Solinus reports are severed from the coast of the Danmonii (or Cornish) by a rough narrow sea, of three or four hours in crossing over. That the inhabitants thereof lived according to their old manner. That they had no markets, nor did money pass among them; but they gave in exchange one thing for another; and so provided themselves with necessaries: that they were very religious, both men and women; and pretended to have great skill in the art of divination, or in fortelling of what was to come. And as to the healthful situation of their climate, Sardus was persuaded that they lived so long till they were weary of life; because they threw themselves from a rock into the sea, in hopes of a better life. This was also the opinion of the British druids. Pliny says, that lead was first brought from these islands into Greece by Madracritus. The Phœnicians were the first who traded thither from Gades, concealing their voyages from others; the trade being so gainful to them that they held it a great point of state-policy, *κρύπτειν ἀπασὶ τὸν πλῆθ*, to keep it a secret from all the world; as Strabo asserts. But the Romans, to find out their place of trade, employed some of their vessels to follow a Carthaginian, or Phœnician, in his voyage thither, who perceiving their design, run his ship on the next shore on purpose, rather than discover to what place he was bound; and after bringing the rest into danger, escaping himself, he received the price of his lost ship and cargo out of the common treasury, with a recompence for his merit. However, the Romans, by many attempts, found out this trade at last.

Afterwards, Publius Crassus sailed thither, and having seen them work at their mines, (which were not very deep) and that the people loved peace and navigation, he instructed them in making improvements therein, notwithstanding the greater distance betwixt them, and their own coast, than that to Britain, hither the Roman emperors banished their criminals to work in the mines: for Maximus having passed sentence of death upon Priscillanus for heresy, transported Instantius, a bishop of Spain, and Tiberianus, into Scilly islands; their goods being first confiscated. So also Marcus the Emperor banished one to Scilly for pretending to prophesy, and foretelling of things to come, as if he was inspired; at the time of the insurrection of Cassius, as some imagine, who would read *Silia Infula* for *Syria Infula*, geographers knowing no such island as the latter.

This relegation, or transportation to foreign islands, was one kind of banishment in those days; and the governors of provinces could banish in this manner, in case they had any islands under their jurisdiction. If not, they wrote to the Emperor to appoint some island for the relegation, or banishment, of the condemned party. Neither was it lawful to remove the dead body of the exiled person to any other place to be buried, without special licence for so doing from the Emperor. After the Romans had forsaken their hold in Britain, Scilly returned again to the power and possession of its natives; and was afterwards subdued, and added to the English crown by Æthelstan, the eighth Saxon King of England.

The aforesaid Avienus gives this farther account of these islands.

*Tartessisque in Terminos Oestrymnidum
Negotiandi mos erat, Carthaginiis
Etiam Colonis* —————

Of the Tartessians through the well-known seas,
Wou'd sail for traffick to th' Oestrymnides;
And Carthaginians too —————

Strabo

Strabo calls a certain place among the Drangi in Asia Cassiteron, for the same reason that the Greeks called the islands Cassiterides, signifying tin. And Stephanus, in his book de Urbibus, observes from Dionysius, that a certain island in the Indian sea was called Cassiterea, from tin. "But, over-against the Artabri, on the north, (says Strabo) which are opposite to the west parts of Britain, lie these islands, which they call Cassiterides, situate, as it were, in the same climate with Britain."

The famous Leland has given the following account of * Scilly. "There be counted 140 islettes of Scilley, that bere grafs, exceeding good pasture for catail.

"St. Mary Isle is five miles or more in cumpace, in it is a poor town and a meatly strong pile; but the troues of the buildings in it be fore defacid and woren.

"The ground of this isle berith exceeding good corn; infomuch, that if a man do but cast corn wher hogges have rotid, it wyl cum up.

"Iniscaw longid to Tavestock, and ther was a poore celle of monkes of Tavestock. Sum caulle this Trescaw; it is the beggest of the isleets, in cumpace a fix miles or more.

"St. Martines Isle. St. Agnes Isle, so caullid of a chapel theryn. The isle of St. Agnes was desolatid by this chaunce, *in recenti hominum memoria*.

"The hole numbere almost of v households that were yn this isle came to a marriage or a fest into St. Mary Isle, and going homewarde were all drownid.

"Ratte Islande. Saynct Lydes Isle wheryn times past at her sepulchre was gret superstition.

"There appere tokens in diverse [of] the islettes of habitations now clene down.

"Gulles and puffines be taken in diverse of these islettes; and plenty of conyes be in divers of these islettes. Divers of these islettes berith wild garlick. Few men be glad to inhabit these islettes for al the plenty, for robbers by the sea that take their catail of force. These robbers be Frenchmen and Spaniards.

"One Danvers, a gentelman of Wilshire, who chief house at Daundesey.

"And Whittington, a gentleman of Glocestershire, be owners of Scilley; but they have scant 40 marks by yere of rentes and commodities of it.

"Scylley is a Kenning, that is to say about an xx miles from the very westeste pointe of Cornwaulle.

"† Sir John Scylley, a Knight and his wife sum tyme dwellyng in the Paroche of Crideton (near Excester) are buried in the north part of the transept of the new church there."

In the island called § Iniscaw was a cell of two Benedictine monks, dedicated to St. Nicholas, belonging to Tavestock, even before the conquest. This was confirmed to them by King Henry I. Reginald Earl of Cornwall, &c. Thus writes Archbishop Tanner, who refers to Reginald. *Com. Cornub. et Barthol. episcop. Exon ex registro Tavitochiensi. M. S. Penes Johan. Maynard, Armig.*

After King Æthelstan had conquered these Islands, at his return to England, he built the church of St. Burian, in the utmost promontory of Britain, westward, where he landed.

ST. MARY'S

Is the largest of the Scilly Islands, containing as many houses and inhabitants as all the rest. It's greatest length is about two miles and a half, middlemost breadth almost one

* Leland's Itinerary, v. iii. p. 7.

† Rooms.

‡ Ib. Cod. p. 44.

§ Tanner's Notitia Monastica.

and a half, and may be reckoned betwixt nine and ten miles in circumference, lying in a projected and retracted figure.

The earth, or soil, is like that of Cornwall; but the air here is much wholesomer than the air of that county, being so very brisk and healthful, that sickness is seldom known among these inhabitants.

The hills are rocky, rising in some places to a great height; and are enriched with mineral stores. The vallies are fertile, and the fields here, like those in Cornwall, are inclosed with stone hedges. Also the heathy plains, and turfy downs, in several places, of this island, afford their use and pleasure. The highest land yields a prospect of England on a clear day, and of ships going out and returning, at the mouths of the channels. Here is also morafs ground, in two parts of this island, called the upper and lower moors, which supply the cattle with water in dry seasons. In the upper of which, the farthest from Hugh-Town, is a pretty large and deep lake. But these moors, by their low situation and ready communication with the sea, next to the southern parts of the island, are subject to be overflowed by the high spring tides; especially when these tides are lifted and driven over the moor-banks by strong southerly winds. The fresh and salt water thus mixing together in the moors, render them long unserviceable to the cattle; and for want of proper banks and sluices to defend their low-land, which might be effected at a moderate expence, their ground and ditches are seldom free from salt water, more or less, in different parts of them.

Nature has not been profuse of her rivers, purling streams, trees, groves, woods, and other external ornaments to beautify this spot of ground; but has bountifully supplied their deficiency with intrinsic store of fresh springs, subterraneous cascades, and rich mineral hills; fixing the islands before the entrance of two famous trading channels, (the British and Bristol,) whereby the inhabitants thereof might benefit themselves, by an intercourse with foreign nations, as well as her mother country.

The latitude of St. Mary's Island is $49^{\circ} 55'$. It is never cold in winter here, as in England, Ireland, and other neighbouring countries. Frost and snow are very seldom known, and never to continue here longer than a few days.

The summers are not scorching, by reason of the frequent breezes, flying over the islands.

Potatoes are cultivated in large quantities, and in as great perfection as in Ireland. Some families gather two crops in a year.

Very little wheat is produced; but of barley, as much as serves this whole island for making malt and bread for the poorer families, with an overplus, the year round. The deficiency of wheat is supplied by sacks of flour from England, of which bread is made by itself, or by mixing it with ground barley. The overstock of barley growing here is sufficient to furnish malt and beer for exportation; but is usually applied to less advantage, in feeding cattle, or swine.

Peas, oats, and a grain called pillis, growing here, are sufficient for the island-expence of those grain, and to spare. The pillis-corn ground, is used instead of oatmeal.

But little hay is made, which the cattle severely find the want of in the winter. Fresh butter and cheese made in this island are scarce commodities; eggs are five for a penny the year round, though they are sometimes difficult to get; but in the summer are always very plentiful. A very good fowl sells but for sixpence: and a couple of conies are usually sold for the same price. Fresh fish, taken about the islands, are very cheap and plentiful; a turbot is sold for about one shilling and sixpence here, which, at London market, would fetch a guinea.

Great

Great quantities of fish are taken by the inhabitants in the spring and summer seasons, which they prepare or save, by opening, garbaging, salting, or laying in pickle, and afterwards drying in the sun. Some are laid by for yearly stock to expend with potatoes, and others are kept for sale. They hang their fish out to dry against the walls of their houses, or spread them upon their stone hedges, which are sometimes seen covered; but are suddenly removed on the appearance of a storm. The common dried sort of fish usually sells for three halfpence, or two-pence per pound; but the ling, which is the best sort, and preferable to what is cured elsewhere, is sold for six pence per pound, when it is sent out of the islands; and for never less than four-pence upon the spot; and therefore, as it is so valuable a commodity, very little of it is expended in Scilly, but most of it carried to market at Penzance.

The fish are divided into three kinds, viz. round, flat, and shell-fish. Of the round are denominated ling, cod, conger, polluck, bass, eels, chad, scad, whiting polluck, millet, mackerel, smelts, sprat, brit, barne, cudles, pilchards, hake, wrasse, whistlers, &c.

Of flat are denominated, turbot, thornback, soles, skate, rays, flukes, dabs, plaice, flounders, &c.

Of shell-fish are denominated, craw-fish, crabs, lobsters, mussels, cockles, shrimps, limpets, wrinkles, but no oysters about Scilly.

The cattle bred upon this island are small, and the meat not so well fed, in general, nor of so pleasant a taste, as in England. Hogs are here very plentiful, whose flesh is reckoned excellent, and the best of its kind; though very good meat is killed here of all sorts at particular seasons.

Beef commonly sells for two-pence-halfpenny per pound, and mutton for as much, or sometimes three-pence; which is also the price of hog-meat. Veal is about the price it is sold for in England, and variable: a quarter of lamb for ten-pence. But they have other supplies of provisions and commodities from Ireland, (beef, pork, cheese, butter, soap, candles, &c.) which come very cheap. But since the late wars with France and Spain, and the restraint of a custom-house upon some of their necessities, trading vessels from that part of the world seldom put into the harbours of Scilly, which sometime occasions a scarcity among the inhabitants.

They are furnished with coals, by coasters from Wales, at about thirty shillings per chaldron, but seldom for less than twenty-eight shillings; the islands affording no other fuel than turf, furze, broom and fern, which serve the common people for their occasions of firing.

From July to November, pilchards swarm about Scilly, as they do about Cornwall, and were the inhabitants encouraged in setting up and carrying on a fishery here as there, they would become as considerable and useful subjects, as their present richer neighbours; being endowed with as capable faculties of body and mind.

Here is no duty or tax on malt, and malt-liquors, which is one encouragement they have for improving their land.

Malt is made in the same manner as in England, by those who make it in large quantities; except that Welch coal, otherwise called culm, is used for firing. The common people, who make it in small quantities, turn their bed-room, or back apartment, into a malt-house, (after wetting their grain) and make a heated hearth, or kettle, serve for a kiln; and so save the expence of buying malt of the maltster, who who is some considerable person in St. Mary's Island.

The malt-liquor brewed in general, has an unpleasant taste for want of proper skill or management in the brewing. Yet there are some families, who brew as good beer as any in England; which shews that the rest might do the same, if they used the same

skill

skill and judgment. Beer is sold here for two-pence a quart. And as there is a frequent demand for malt-liquor by shipping coming to the islands, it might be worth some person's while to undertake the improvement of it, for the advantageous consumption of the corn, and general benefit of the islanders.

Garden vegetables, of all sorts, growing here, are in as great perfection as in England, but require defence from the blighting winds, which are of so pernicious a quality, as not to suffer a shrub or tree to grow up to any great height in the island, cutting off their tops, and turning their leaves black, as if they were burnt; and, except in Holy Vale, which is sheltered by the surrounding hills, there is not a place in this island where Pomona rears her head; that being the only orchard bearing fruit in perfection.

Next this orchard, belonging to the most commodious farm in St. Mary's Island, are situated a very good dwelling-house, barns, stables, yards, &c. with forty acres of contiguous land, in the same vale, in the possession of Mr. William Crudge, (succeeded by his son, Mr. John Crudge, as commissary of musters,) a family much esteemed for their good qualities.

Very little wood, and that mostly shrubs, grows upon this, or any other of the islands.

The land in general is dressed with ore wood (by some called ore weed) carried thither upon horses backs, loaded with crooks of it, from the sea-shore, where it is thrown up in great quantities. Out of this ore wood, many of the poorer sort of people make kelp, by burning it to ashes. The agent for the islands takes it off their hands for rent, or accounts with them otherwise for the same; who sends it to market in England, from whence it returns him considerable profit.

The people plow and sow here as they do in Cornwall, yoking horses as well as oxen; and use reap-hooks for cutting their crops: in reaping they grasp the stem of the corn very low, with one hand, and cut it near the ground with the reap-hook in the other, laying it in even ranks, after the manner a scythe leaves it, where mowing is practised. At this labour the men and women are equally painful and dextrous: but in the off-islands the women undertake the management of the harvest, while the men go a fishing.

When the corn is dry, they bind it up in small sheaves, which, in building the mow, they place with the ears or beard of the corn outward, upon the sides of the ridge, (like the roof of a house) whereby it shoots off the water when it rains. Some time after, at a convenient opportunity, when they have thrashed out some of their corn, they thatch the mow with straw for standing the winter, or till they want to remove it; and to secure it from the force of the winds, they bind over the top with straw ropes, crossing on another, in a figure, like the squares of glass windows. These ropes are fastened to sticks thrust into the lower part or sides of the mow. In the same form they bind the thatch upon their houses, after thatching them with a thin new coat every year, to prevent its being torn off by the winds, which, in all these islands, are very boisterous and violent, at some particular seasons. These straw ropes, of the thatched houses, are fastened to pegs drove into the chinks of the stone walls.

They have a custom of celebrating the conclusion of their harvest with a very plentiful feast, which they call *Nicla Thies*; at which time several friends and neighbours of both sexes are invited, who meet with pleasant smiling countenances, at the house of the mow, where two or three apartments are usually filled with the company. The several courses of dishes being decently introduced in their order, and removed, the brisk liquor and conversation express the spirit and sense, as well as the hospitality of

the people. The music afterwards plays up, and as many as choose it, take a partner to dance. In this merry and frolicksome manner, they pass away the time till the next morning, with jovial companions, lasses, and bowls, verifying the proverb, "A feast or a famine in Scilly."

A parson having been at one of these entertainments, by the force of his imagination, (like those who fancy they see figures, and the forms of animals, &c. in the clouds) compared the different shapes of these islands, as they appear in the map, to the various dishes in one of these feasts, as follows:

The Islands compared to a Feast.

1. St. Mary's, a scate.
2. Tresco, a side of mutton.
3. Bryer, a dried ling.
4. Sampson, a leg of veal.
5. White Island, near it, a sole.
6. Annet, a lobster.
7. Agnes, a venison pasty, near it, half a goose.
8. Tean, a capon.
9. St. Helens, a shoulder of mutton.
10. Bigger White Island, a bacon ham.
11. St. Martin's, a plumb pudding.
12. Great Arthur, } a brace of conies.
13. Great Gannick, }
14. Great Gannelly, a breast of veal.
- 15, 16, 17, 18, 19. Scilly, Mincarlo, Guahal, Innisvouls, Northwithel, roast-beef and steaks.
20. Little Ganilly, a plaice.
21. Ragged Island, a conger.
- 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27. Nornour, Minewithin, Round Island, Little Gannick, Little Arthur, Rat Island, pies and tarts.

The rocks, and lesser islands, lying scattered about these, are as oysters, cockles, and shrimps, for garnish; and the intermixed surrounding seas as the flowing tides of liquor to drown the care of the inhabitants.

Some thrash their corn upon boards covered with canvas, and some upon barn floors, as in England; others, who are not accommodated with barns of their own to thrash in, borrow them of their neighbours.

They cleanse their corn in a breezy day without doors, by spreading it upon canvas, and throwing it into a casure, or instrument for the purpose, whereby the corn falls down, and the chaff is blown away.

They thrash as they want, and store the cleaned corn in a cask, about the size of a hoghead.

There are many hand-mills for grinding upon emergency in all the islands; but a wind-mill, upon a tract called Peninnis, grinds the larger quantities. The miller seldom fails of constant visits and employ from his customers of both sexes. His diligence supplies the place of water-mills, of which here are none to hinder his encreasing trade.

Hugh-Town is the capital of St. Mary's, situated upon the low-land of the isthmus, which joins the high body of the island to the high-land of the garrison, above the

town, which is next it; being at the foot of the garrison hill, on the back part, and washed by the sea of the pool on its front, where ships are moored, or lie a-ground at low-water. And here the stone key, afore-mentioned, projects itself pretty far out, into the pool at the landing-place. (Vid. the map.) This town consists of one long and two cross streets, of strong stone-built houses, wherein are several shop-keepers and public-house keepers, selling many sorts of liquors and commodities. Liquors are sold without licence, by as many persons as please here, and all over the islands. The several trades of bakers, brewers, coopers, butchers, weavers, tailors, mantua-makers, shoe-makers, sail-makers, a boat-builder, joiners, carpenters, masons, smiths, perriwig-makers, &c. are exercised in this town, either separately or several together. The steward's, or agent's new house, is a handsome strong piece of architecture, lately erected before the front of the old one, at the farther end of the town from the landing-place, next the banks of Percressa, to the southward. At the hither end is a custom-house, with a collector, surveyor, and four other officers belonging, under the direction of the two principals. About two furlongs beyond this town, to the eastward, is a curious sandy bay, called Pomelin, where the beach, from the mark of flood to the mark of ebb, is covered with an exceeding fine writing sand, and of which ship-loads may be gathered at low-water. On account of its plenty and brightness, it is fetched by the inhabitants for sanding their houses in Hugh Town, and other parts of this island; and presents of it are made to many parts of England as a curiosity.

Upon the sandy beaches or shores, in other places, are gathered numerous pretty small shells, which are presented for furnishing of grottos. There are some of a larger size, picked up upon the shores of this and other islands, which are used for the same purpose.

The greatest natural curiosities observed in St. Mary's, are the rocks of Peninnis, and a subterraneous passage near those rocks, whose entrance is called Piper's-Hole. There is no reasonable account to be given for the production of these huge rocks, (in some respects like Stone-henge upon Salisbury plain,) but by an universal flood over the land, when this terrestrial mass was distorted and changed after an extraordinary manner; trees which have been found buried deep in the ground upon the tops of hills, and other places, cannot be accounted for but by such a miraculous cause. Whatever produced the waters over the face of the earth, whether the change of its position, the shock of its frame, the chasms thereupon, the gushing from its entrails, joined with the rapid torrents from above, moving in various directions at the earth's surface, some substances at that time were ejected, while others were immersed; and from no other cause assigned can the several strata of subterraneous shells, mixed masses, inverted and deep whelmed trees, and nice and ponderous balancing of rocky matter at the earth's surface be accounted for. These appearances are a proof of terrestrial chasms, torrents, and ejections of quarry substances, and of the regurgitation of other substances, at some time having happened. Several of these kind of rocks in Scilly are amazingly huge in some places, and balanced upon one another, and especially in places of this island near or further from the sea; without comparison either of height or ponderosity, with the rocks of Peninnis, causing astonishment and admiration in the beholders above all others! I remember having seen huge rocks and quarry substances in the midst of foreign islands, as if they had been once washed by the sea; which might probably come from the causes above assigned.

Riding rocks likewise are to be seen in all countries where stone-quarries abound. And in several parts of Cornwall near, and far off the sea, large rocks are seen separate,

parate, or riding in equal poise, as already described; which must be the expulsion of subterraneous matter, left at rest in that position, after some extraordinary concussive cause.

Piper's-Hole, the entrance of the subterraneous passage aforesaid, has its situation under the high banks of Peninnis, (near the said rocks) being about the south-west part of the island next the sea, which washes its orifice at high tide. This passage is said to communicate under ground with the island of Tresco, as far as the north-west cliffs or banks of it, next that sea, where another orifice is seen that goes by the same name with the former.

Going in at the orifice at Peninnis banks in St. Mary's, it is above man's height, and of as much space in its breadth; but grows lower and narrower farther in: a little beyond which entrance appear rocky basons, or reservoirs, continually running over with fresh water, descending as it distils from the sides of the rocky passage; by the fall of water heard farther in, it is probable there may be rocky descents in the passage: the drippings from the sides have worn the passage, as far as it can be seen, into very various angular surfaces. Strange stories are related of this passage, of men going so far in that never returned; of dogs going quite through and coming out at Tresco, with most of their hair off, and such like incredibles. But its retired situation, where lovers retreat to indulge their mutual passion, has made it almost as famous as the cave wherein Dido and Æneas met of old. Its water is exceeding good.

Upon the part of this island opposite to Peninnis, is a fertile spot of ground called Newford, where is a good dwelling-house, farm, garden, &c. occupied by Mr. Roger Edwards, who is a member of the court of civil judicature; a family of worthy reputation. Here and in Holy Vale, the land affords milk and honey.

Beyond Newford, upon the north shore, is a small key, where boats land from St. Martin's island lying opposite; near it stands a hut of convenient reception.

Many kinds of physical and fragrant herbs grow in St. Mary's, and in all the islands, which the inhabitants gather in large quantities in the months of May, June, July, and August. These they distil in an alembick, for making cordials all the year. They cover the distilled water, put into bottles, with the strong vegetable oil that comes from the herbs in drawing, which preserves it till they want it to mix with brandy and sugar for use.

By the low situation of Hugh-Town, or the ill contrivance of those who built it, being almost level with every high tide, the water comes into some of the dwellers' yards and houses. And at such times of tide, some are greatly incommoded, as others living in the garrison, standing very high, out of the reach of all tides, are greatly accommodated.

It would be a great happiness to most of Hugh inhabitants, if their town were removed, either into the garrison, or to the high-land at the farther end of the isthmus, next the body of the island, where no high tides could possibly affect them whatever wind blows.

The town, as it is at present situated, is subject to be destroyed by inundations of the sea; which, if it should happen in the night, the people are also liable to be drowned in their beds. For on September 26, 1744, in the afternoon, it being a very high tide, the sea rolled in vast mountains, driven by the winds, and broke over the banks of Percressa, next the southward, where it entered the town with such violence and rapidity, as threatened the levelling of all the houses. One of the torrents, passing directly over the isthmus to the pool, took a house away there as it went; other parts

of it went through the steward's former house, which it partly destroyed, filling the rooms, and carrying away the furniture with it: a third torrent beyond this came down and joined it, passing both together through the streets of the town with great fury to the opposite sea; also carrying away furniture, and filling the rooms of the houses. The damages done to some at that time, were very considerable; but the agent, or steward, sustained the most. If it had happened in the night time, as it did in the afternoon, when several inhabitants were obliged to quit their houses at the upper windows, and fly for refuge, it is reasonably supposed, that those who now escaped would have been drowned people. Most of the inhabitants were drawn out of their houses before this flood begun, by a curiosity to behold the prospect of the sea, appearing as if it was going to overwhelm the whole town; but they were forced to fly before its fury, as it suddenly passed over its bounds, near which, among the rest, I happened to be present. At this time great stones were thrown by the sea into some houses standing next it, in different parts of the island; the walls of some houses were beat down, and the dwellers therein had but just time to escape with their lives out of the windows before it. Most of the low-land was overflowed, and some of the stone hedges levelled.

About a mile up the island from the Hugh-Town, which borrows its name from the Hugh Land in the garrison, stands Church-Town, consisting of a few houses, with a court-house, (otherwise called Parish-house) and also a church, at which last the people meet twice at their devotion every Lord's day.

About two furlongs beyond Church-Town, to the eastward, stands Old-Town, bordering upon the sea, against the opposite part of a sandy bay. This town consists of several convenient dwellings, suitable to the dwellers, who live by fishing, farming, selling liquors, and the exercise of a few mechanic trades. Both these towns received great damages by the late inundation, when the Hugh was overflowed, and a vast deal of mischief was done upon the English coasts, by the same storm. The sea passed over the bottom of this bay, between the two towns, (after throwing stones into the houses on each side of it, and breaking the walls as it entered,) and drowned the Lower Moors, before mentioned. The Off-islands, at the same time, had some of their low-lands overflowed, and some pools of their fresh water spoiled.

Their buildings are of rock, or moor-stone, which lie in great quantities upon the surface, but are chiefly dug from the quarries, a little below the surface of the earth, where they abound. They cover with tile, but mostly with straw; the first is brought from England, and laid upon the roofs of the houses here, as it is there; the latter is of their own product, and the method of covering is with a thin coat, which is commonly renewed every year when harvest is over; and they begin thrashing their corn, binding the coat with straw ropes, as has been described.

They make their lime by burning of English lime-stone, brought over in shipping for ballast.

Their mortar is tempered with a sifted earth, which they call ram, and is said to make the strongest cement for binding the rock-stone together.

The outside chinks of the stone walls are filled up with white mortar, as well for ornament, as for resisting of moisture.

Their brick is all brought over, there being no proper earth that I could discover, for making them in the islands.

The apartments of their dwellings are apt to be damp on account of the rock-stone walls, which are porous, and attract moisture; an instance of which may be seen in Tresco castle, where the walls are of many feet in thickness, yet always appear very moist on their inside. By the distillation of the moisture through the stony substance, and mixing with the cement, a transparent matter, harder than the stones, is produced, sticking to the sides of the wall, or lower stones, where it drops, shining like glass; or hangs pendent from the upper stones like icicles. The proper remedy to cure this dampness in rooms, is plaistering well their inside, and wainscoting over it; which, with keeping fires now and then, are sufficient.

All timber is brought hither, which is in use, and none grows upon any of the islands. Some come in by wrecks, which is kept in the agent's possession, for proper disposal.

Deal or fir, is used for most occasions of building, such as roofing houses and churches in the islands, laying floors, lining rooms, making tables, &c.

The apartments of some houses are spacious and handsome, as in others they are small and contracted, where you may see them adorned with saints' pictures, ears of corn and wreck furniture; the last of which are sent them by the hand of Providence.

They have very good workmen, who make tables, chests, drawers of mahogany, and other fine woods, &c. which are here as completely finished as any where. These woods are cheaply purchased out of ships coming in from the West-Indies, or other foreign parts, in their return to England.

All the islands are defended by numerous rocks placed about them, the citadels of nature. But the island of St. Mary, of which I have been giving a description, is likewise defended by a strong garrison, situated upon the west part of it, overlooking the town and isthmus, and commanding the country that way and to the sea about the batteries, of which there are several strong ones, mounted with sixty-four pieces of cannon, some eighteen pounders. It also contains a company of soldiers, a master-gunner, and six other gunners. A store-house, with arms for arming three hundred islanders, who are obliged to assist the military forces at the approach of an enemy. An impregnable magazine. A guard-house, barracks, bridge, and strong gates; and, upon the summit of the hill, above a regular ascent, going from Hugh-Town, stands His Majesty's Star-castle, with ramparts, and a ditch about it. This castle commands a prospect of all the islands and seas about them; from whence, in a fair day, are also beheld ships passing to and fro, and England as though rising out of the sea at a distance. Here the king's colours are hoisted and appear conspicuous aloft, for ships to observe and obey coming in. The Right Honourable the Earl of Godolphin commands as governor of all the islands; and a lieutenant-governor is here commissioned to act under his lordship by His Majesty, but not upon establishment.

By the particular favour and bounty of the Earl of Godolphin, the use of the castle, and all its apartments, with all perquisites, or harbour dues of shipping, drawing protests, have been enjoyed by the captain of the company, commanding in his lordship's and the lieutenant-governor's absence, who never reside, being a very considerable benefit. He has also the manuring and improving all the garrison land, upwards of a hundred acres, the grazing of it with cattle, and the cutting and disposal of all the turf for firing; and has likewise the sole management of all the coals and candles allowed.

Besides

Besides the ships putting into Scilly from abroad, it sometime happens, that a hundred sail of coasters are driven in by an easterly wind, at which time each ship or vessel pays, at an average*, about two shillings and two pence for coming to an anchor, or lying upon the ground, and hoisting the king's colours. And all masters of ships pay thirteen shillings and four-pence for each protest to the commandant, who, by some, is styled his excellency, commander in chief, and chief magistrate, in the islands of Scilly, and the generous presents made to this gentleman by masters of ships, with other tributary acknowledgements of his power and station, render his command not inferior to that of some Eastern† governors.

His other conveniences are cellars and out-apartments, belonging to the castle, with a spacious kitchen and flower-garden, defended by strong walls, lying at the distance of about half a furlong from the castle, in a level turfy plain, extending to the brow of the opposite hill. In the midst of this plain are standing two circular walls of wind-mills formerly in use, which give a prospect like obelisks from the castle apartments, or when viewed at a distance.

Under the hill, towards the north part of the garrison, stands a convenient dwelling, in which resides Mr. Abraham Tovey, master-gunner, which was given him as a reward for his services to his country in the late wars; who, in several actions abroad, employed as an officer in the train of artillery, distinguished himself as a brave man. He has the conveniency of good apartments, yards, garden, out-houses, and cellars, (well stored) also a little house that stands under the hill, betwixt his dwelling-house, (next the sea) and the parade above it. The principal of which conveniences are bestowed by the generous board of ordnance. He is also store-keeper, barrack-master, and collector of the lights. His several sons, in their figure and personal qualities, do reputation to their father and this country.

The aforefaid master-gunner has been entrusted with the management of the king's works, carried on in the garrison and other places, for the better defence of the islands. He has greatly improved the garrison roads, as well as the batteries, by making them convenient for removing cannon upon, which before was done with the utmost difficulty. One of which roads he has almost completed round the line, next the several batteries of cannon, and has caused part of it to be hewn through a vast rock, or quarry-substance, where before it was impassable. And all these roads are a pleasant way, where people walk for their health and amusement, as in the mall at St. James's; the longest of which, of about a mile, may therefore be called the Mall of Scilly. Mr. Tovey's other works in the garrison, and other parts of the islands, speak for themselves, though he has been pretty much envied and misrepresented about them.

Entering the garrison at the bridge and gateway, after passing a steep and rocky ascent going from Hugh-Town, you see the guard-house immediately on the right-hand, and the barracks on the left. Advancing farther, four broad gravelly roads appear; one turns short to the left-hand, and runs under the garrison-wall, almost round it; at the higher end of which is a strong battery on the left, overlooking the

* All the foreign vessels pay double, or four shillings and four-pence.

† A governor represents the king, as commanding the garrison, troops, &c. Antiently a governor of a fortified place was required to hold out three attacks before he surrendered, but now as many as he can.

town, and commanding the isthmus below, as well as the hills and country beyond it. Here is placed the warning-gun, which is never fired but to give notice to the islanders of the approach of an enemy, who thereupon assemble themselves in a posture of defence, and as many as can retire into the garrison.

Many strong batteries are seen upon the left, walking round the garrison, but a most powerful one near the Wool-Pack rock, one at the Morning Point, &c.

The next road, at entering the garrison, and the broadest of all four, goes strait forward; being a regular paved ascent as far as the castle, westerly, standing upon the top of the hill. About the middle of this broad road is the parade, where the soldiers are drawn up, do their exercise, and fire their small arms on firing days appointed by the government, and are here also usually mustered by the commissary, who resides in the island. At the hither end of the parade, to the left, is the hole, or military prison. And a little beyond it, on the same side of the road, an old magazine, lately improved by Mr. Tovey, who has hewn away the earth and quarry, before lying about the back part of it, by which its communication with the soil is cut off, and for the most part cured of its dampness. A square paved way is now carried round the walls, (which, and the roof are bomb-proof) being five or six yards in thickness.

A little to the right-hand of the castle-road, is another, running upon a descent about N. W. to the store-house, which stands about the distance of the castle from the entrance of the garrison.

Near the store-house is a smith's forge, and working shop, conveniently situated for the sparks paying a neighbourly visit to the powder-room.

Adjacent to the smith's forge is a carpenter's working shop, and saw-pit. And at the back of the store-house, the store house well, made at the expence of the board of ordnance; near which are strong batteries of cannon.

The right hand road, at entering the garrison, leads directly in a deep descent to the master-gunner's, at about the distance of a pistol-shot from the commanding officer, in the castle above him.

At this hither end, to the right of the master gunner's road, is a commanding battery, and at the farther end of it, a little to the right of his house is another strong battery, which commands the road for shipping; as likewise does the store-house battery, and other batteries adjacent.

A little to the right-hand of master-gunner's gate, is a well of exceeding good water, esteemed the best thereabout. This well is sunk square-wise, about a yard each way, and upwards of half a score yards in depth, cased up with rock-stone and mortar, but so as to permit the distillation of the springs through its sides near the bottom. It is fitted up with a windlace, chain, and very strong bucket, for the use of the garrison, (there being no pumps in the islands) and supported with all the rest of the works, by the right honourable and honourable the master-general, and principal officers of his majesty's ordnance.

The store-well is seldom in use, except when the castle-well, next the master-gunner's aforesaid, is exhausted, as it sometimes happens, by an ill use of that water.

For the better supplying the inhabitants with water, a well has been opened in town, opposite to the landing-place, that has been filled up and out of use, as long as the oldest person in the island can remember. In sinking it deeper, when the rubbish with which it was filled up was removed, the miner discovered a rich vein of tin ore, which promised encouragement for working it as a tin-work; but there being none to undertake it, the well was cased up with pieces of rock-stone, artfully piled upon one another, square.

square-wise, like the castle-well, in the garrison, but without mortar or cement. And the depth of this well being sunk much upon a level with the castle-well, with a quarry-hill lying betwixt them, it is probable, that the springs, proceeding from the rocky substance at the bottom of each well, may communicate, by subterraneous passages, with one another. Hither the seamen bring their water-casks to be filled, from their ships lying next the town.

There are shallow wells about the town in different places, the water of which serves only for ordinary uses. Other wells of very good water are to be met with all over the islands.

At a small distance from the beach, in the sandy bay of Pomelin, is a very good spring lined round with stones, under a stone hedge, and continually running over: this is called the Moor well. Hither the seamen also bring their water casks to fill for the shipping at anchor in the pool, rolling them to the sandy beach next the water's edge, where their boats receive them. And hither some women of the Hugh-Town, bring their linen to wash in the spring and summer, making a fire to heat the water, and drying their linen upon the stone hedges, or bushes, near the place.

Upon a turfy spot in Holy Vale, near the fruit orchard aforementioned, is a little fountain always running over. This water serves the neighbouring family to whom it belongs, and others who have a liking to use it.

In other parts of the island, where springs are deficient, there are deep pits, or scoops in the ground, the work of nature, for the reception of rain-water, to supply the cattle. Several of these natural reservoirs may be seen in the off-islands, and a very large one, called the Abbey pond, in the island of Tresco. Near this pond are the ruins of an old abbey which was in use when the abbots of Tavistock abbey held their jurisdiction in Scilly.

The springs in these islands are very probably increased by the barrenness of wood and vegetables, sparing the draught of moisture from the earth. The water passing under ground, through the beds of tin ore, not being tinged at all with its qualities, as the water is passing through strata of iron, shews that tin is not impregnating. There is a well of some note in this island, called Lentevern well.

Of Trade.

IN the towns of St. Mary's, the people trade in several sorts of commodities, usually sold in shops, many of which they are furnished with from England; and ships coming in, or passing by the island, supply the rest of their occasions. With these strangers they sometimes exchange dried fish, cattle, or provisions of the island, for such commodities as they want.

A fleet of coasters, forced in by an easterly wind, is of advantage to the islanders, as well in their pilotage of them into the harbours, as in the traffick, and expences of the people a-shore. Commanders and passengers of ships from the West Indies, or other foreign parts, putting in, never fail of shewing their liberality, and of leaving some of their commodities and riches behind them. By this means the islanders are supplied with a stock of rum, brandy, wine, and other foreign liquors, some for consumption upon the islands, and some (by leave of the custom-house) for consumption elsewhere. For the sake of this trade, which is their principal dependance at present, the people of Scilly run very great hazards in going off with their small boats to supply themselves from shipping passing by, shewing undaunted courage and resolution, in venturing, when the seas run mountains high.

There

There being no owners of houses and lands in Scilly, the peoples' hindrances in the improvement of land and trade, are the short leases, and scarcity of houses to be met with; it requiring an interest to procure a house, and another for a lease of one. On which account it was usual here to engage houses at the decease of the present dwellers. If any houses are built by leave, at the expence of an islander, they become the property of the proprietor after a short term: so that no islander possesses house or land, but upon pleasure or lease. The agent is the proper person to apply to for a house or land, or a lease of either, or both; who has the direction and management of all the houses, buildings, repairs, rents, &c. upon the islands. Who also has it in his power to distribute favour, or shew vengeance, in equal measure. But the present agent is a gentleman, esteemed for his generosity, good sense, and humanity.

The following is an account of Scilly, from a manuscript, in the hands of William Jones, Esq. of London, (a gentleman well known for his encouragement of literature, and the sciences, as well as for his extensive knowledge, and exact judgment therein) who has favoured me with information, more than once, from his curious and valuable collection. The MS. seems to be written about the year 1717, and is to this purpose:—

“The inhabitants are very civilized, and are improved in trade and commerce. The lands are naturally very fruitful, and could easily be improved; but as these islands are held of the crown by proprietors, the persons in trust for the proprietors have usually made their advantage of them, injurious to the islanders, and the good intent of the repositors of that trust. But if, instead of the custom of letting short leases, (of about 21 years,) long leases were let, as in Cornwall, and other parts, it would much encourage the improvement of lands in Scilly, and foreigners to settle there. And no doubt but those islands are as well stored with tin as many parts in Cornwall.”

There being no market in St. Mary's, the families in the island agree to take their shares of meat as suit their occasion, when cattle are appointed to be killed; that by bespeaking what meat they choose, none is left unsold, but each family has their proper allowance. The people of this island are farther supplied with several sorts of provisions brought over in boats from the off islands, when the weather will permit of a visit from those islanders; or, as the time and occasion suit them for selling their commodities. The inhabitants of Hugh-Town in St. Mary's, seeing one of these boats coming over, take their first opportunity of meeting it, and the provisions, at the landing-place, or key-head, where all persons present take hold as they can of what they like, and depart home to account with the boat-man at his leisure, who at this time is generally so busy, in observing what things are taken by such and such persons, that he has not then time allowed him to take money. And by this diligent watching and attendance of some more than others, at the coming over of these off-island-boats, there is a very unequal distribution of fowls, rabbits, eggs, fresh fish, fresh butter, &c. brought over; occasioning disputes, sometimes, among friends and neighbours.

Their manufacture is spinning their own wool, knitting stockings of it, and weaving it into cloth, which serve for the cloathing of many of the inhabitants, who are by their situation, the sons and daughters of God's providence; and accordingly are otherwise cloathed and supplied out of wrecks, sent in by the sea, the spoils of their rich neighbours.

God, as he fram'd the whole, the whole to bless,
On mutual wants, built mutual happiness.

POPE'S ESSAY.

Of the Off-Islands.

ABOUT a mile south west of the south part of St. Mary's garrison lies St. Agnes island, otherwise called the light-house island, upon which stands a very high and strong light-house, seen in the night at a great distance, by which ships going out of, or coming into the two * channels, avoid falling in with the rocks, lying thicker about this island, than any other of the Scilly islands. It is also of use to all coasting vessels, crossing the channels. There is nothing particular in the soil of this island, different from the rest of the islands, (being in that respect very much alike) nor of the dwellings, or description of places, except the light-keeper's habitation and employment, a church, in use for devotion, and such like.

The light-keeper has a salary allowed him by the trinity-board of 40 pounds a year, and 20 pounds a year allowed to his assistant, which whole sum, till the coming of this last light-keeper, (Capt. ——— Clark) used to be allowed to one person, without any assistant. He is also allowed a dwelling-house, and a piece of ground for a garden by the trinity-board, as has been formerly the custom. And considering his close confinement upon this remote island, and the care required here to keep a good light, more than in other places, upon the English coasts, encouragement ought to be given to a light-keeper, where our navigation, and the lives of His Majesty's subjects, are the most depending, by an augmentation, rather than a reduction of his salary.

This light is kept with coals burning near the top of the light-house, which being laid on in large quantities, and sometimes stirred with an iron rod, the ruddy heat and flame are strongly perceived, through the glass frames, surrounding it, at a vast distance upon the sea; yet, before the coming of this present light-keeper, I have known it scarcely perceivable in the night, at the island of St. Mary, where it now looks like a comet. And some are of opinion, (not without reason) that in the time of the former light-keeper, it has been suffered to go out, or sometimes not lighted.

It is supplied with coals by an annual ship which comes freighted on purpose. The hire of the carriage of which coals to the light-house, from the sea side, where they are taken out, is an agreeable benefit to the poor inhabitants. The top of this light-house, (from whence, in the day-time, I have taken a view, 50 or 60 feet from the high ground which it stands upon) commands a very wide, and remote prospect, upon the neighbouring seas.

What is further remarkable concerning this island, is, that by its situation, next to the numerous western rocks, more wrecks of ships are sent in here by the sea, than to any other of the Scilly islands; which make the inhabitants of it some amends for their forlornness of abode. St. Werna, (by some called Sancta Wauna) whom these people invoke, as their benefactor, in times of distress, is supposed to be instrumental in sending these wrecks, and of directing and presiding over their good fortune.

About the middle of this island there is a cavity of small depth, sunk in the earth, consecrated to the memory of this faint, or holy spirit; in honour and gratitude to whom, several of the inhabitants pay their annual devotions at the place, on the day after twelfth-day, cleaning it out, and using certain superstitious ceremonies in their thanksgiving; which being ended, they make a general feasting and rejoicing throughout the island.

Of Tresco Island.

ABOUT three miles and a half northerly of the most northern part of St. Agnes island, or two miles northerly from St. Mary's key, lies the island of Tresco, the capital town of which is called Dolphin, (probably from Godolphin) consisting of a church, and about half a score stone-built houses, after the manner of those built in St. Mary's island. And near the landing-place of Tresco, in sight of New Grimsby harbour, stands a dwelling called Tresco Palace. This formerly used to be a house of resort for masters of ships, and strangers coming to this island; but the custom has some time been altered to a house of better accommodation, inhabited by Mr. Samuel Blyth, farther up the island. Hereabout are several scattered stone-built houses inhabited by labouring people.

Dolphin Town afore-mentioned, is situated next the sea, towards the east part of the island, about half a mile distant from the landing-place, on the opposite shore.

The inhabitants live in this island after the manner of those described in St. Mary's, this being the next inferior island in trade, and reputation of inhabitants. More wool is spun here, and cloth and stockings made than in St. Mary's, or any of the other islands.

Upon the north part of this island are to be seen the ruins of an old castle; a little to the southward of which stands a very high strong castle built by Oliver Cromwell, commonly called Tresco Castle, and lately repaired by Mr. Tovey. This castle commands the passage into New Grimsby harbour, if men and guns were put into it, and will keep out privateers, and secure shipping there at anchor.

Upon another part of this island is a block-house, which, when fitted up, commands the harbour of Old Grimsby.

Samphire, of an extraordinary kind, is produced here, and in other of the Off-Islands, in abundance, and is used both for distilling and pickling. The method of preserving it for pickling, at any time, is, by putting it into small casks, and covering it with a strong brine of salt and water, which changes it yellow; but vinegar restores it's greenness in pickling. Being preserved after this manner, it is sent in small casks to distant parts for presents.

In the year 1744, as a mason was repairing an old house in this island, a sum of king Charles's half crown's were found hid in the walls by a deceased dweller; the number of which appeared to be about 500. The workman was taken into custody by the agent, who promised him a share to discover the number he had found, but he had sense enough to keep the whole prize to himself.

Of St. Martin's Island.

ABOUT two miles from the northermost part of St. Mary's, or one from the eastermost part of Tresco, lies the island of St. Martin; upon the extremity of which, at the outermost part, stands a day-mark, next the coming in of Crow Sound, appearing at a distance, as conspicuous by day, as the light-house upon St. Agnes, but is not altogether so high and large. It is built with rock-stone, equally round next the bottom, and tapering upwards. This serves to direct vessels crossing the channels, or coming into Scilly.

Of Bryer Island.

ALMOST half a mile from the west side of Tresco island, to the westward of the landing-place, lies the island of Bryer, which is inhabited by several families, some of a generous disposition, and persons of able circumstances.

Samphire, and many kinds of medicinal herbs grow here, as in several of the other islands, where they are gathered in their proper seasons.

The sea-birds, in all these islands, are looms, gannets, herons, herinshaws, gulls, sea pies, mericks, &c. The land birds, puffins, snipes, woodcocks, ducks, widgeon, teal, wild geese, wild swans, cawillys, pinnicks, curloes, &c. in winter; besides the common birds, larks, linnets, black-birds, thrushes, gold-finches, kites, hawks, owls, &c. all the year. Fish are taken off here, and brought in; as they are likewise taken about this island for serving the other islands.

Here is a church, in which the people pray for a supply of their wants: the teacher belonging to which is a fisherman. His brother teachers in the churches of St. Agnes, Tresco, and St. Martin, are fishermen also.

Among all these islands, (including St. Mary's) every man's small boat is his principal dependance, whereby he provides for the support of his family. Persons, who are not in circumstances to become separate owners of these small boats, join their shares of expence in building them, and so reap the fruits of their several industries, in partnership, according to the number of persons concerned; which are from two to half a dozen, or upwards. There is but one boat-builder upon the islands, viz. Mr. John Cousins, who lives in St. Mary's, and builds at several prices, from five pounds to twenty, or upwards; exclusive of the expence of masts, sails, rigging, and other boat furniture, differently required. And amongst those who are separate, or joint owners of boats, there is an emulation of out-building, out-sailing, and out-braving one another. It is by these boats here, as by bred horses for swiftness, in England; some going faster than others, though equal care is taken in the building of one, and breeding of the other. The master-gunner's boat is the largest, and reckoned the best belonging to the islands for freight and speed, either upon a wind, or before it; and is the safest to sail in about the islands, or for crossing the seas to England. The agent's is the next fleet racer, carrying weight in proportion to its inches. There are other fleet racers of note excelling upon, or before a wind; but the custom house boat, carrying a light weight, is best at giving chace with all winds; though by the management of its guide, and not starting fair, it is sometimes distanced.

There are several store-houses at Hugh-Town, in St. Mary's, in which the agent lays up, and secures the property of the lord proprietor of the islands, taken out of wrecks, or otherwise belonging to his lordship.

Besides the places already described upon St. Mary's island, there are these, viz. Mount Hollis, Bussler's Hill, Down Derry, Carn Thomas*, Carn Guarvil, Carn Lee, Perlo, Harry's Walls, Salley Key, Trimulethin, Mount Flaggon, Bansecaron, Carn Morvel, Tolman, Giant's Castle, Newfoundland, Toll's Island, &c. which require nothing very particular to be said about them, the situations of most of them may be seen in the map.

The sudden fogs, so common in Scilly, though never unwholesome, partly answer to the use of rain; which yet is seldom wanted here.

* Carn; signifies in Cornish, a heap of rocks.

These islands have a natural use in their situation, by causing an indraught betwixt them and the land's end of Cornwall, whereby ships going from one channel to the other, the more readily cross the two tides, directly going out or coming in, at the mouth of both the channels.

The direct courses of the main-tide coming in, being thus greatly broken and diverted cross-ways, a little before its entrance into both channels, is in a great measure prevented rushing directly upon the extremity of the land of Cornwall, and from encroaching thereby, in a larger degree, upon the present bounds of that county.

Of the Inhabitants.

THE number of people upon the island of St. Mary are about seven hundred, including men, women, and children; and about as many in the islands of Tresco, St. Martin, Bryer, St. Agnes, and Sampson; in the last and smallest of which inhabited islands, lives but one family, which goes to the places of worship in the other islands; here being no opportunity of public devotion, nor of communication, but by the means of a boat.

The men are loyal subjects, endowed with much natural strength of body and mind, giving proofs of their fortitude in bearing fatigues and hardships; are very good seamen and pilots; and want only an opportunity of education to render themselves more useful subjects.

The women are very dextrous in the use of the needle, and also in talents of good housewifery; nor do they want beauty, and other engaging qualities to recommend them.

The children, or youth, discover very forward capacities for improvement, which, for want of schools of education here, they are frustrated in and lost. In the islands of Jersey and Man, schools are not only endowed for the education of youth; but libraries also for public instruction. Which noble benefits being as much wanted and desired in Scilly, it is hoped, that, among so many generous benefactors, abounding in wealth and public spirit in England, the same good ends will be accomplished by them in these islands.

Of the Government.

Mr. HEYLIN, in his geography, printed in the year 1674, and editions before that time, is mistaken in what he says, "that these islands are ordered for civil matters, as a part of Cornwall, and for military to the power of their own Governor, or Captain, subordinate to the Lord Lieutenant of that county." For they were granted by patent from the crown, before the time he mentions them to be governed after that manner, to proprietors, who had also the power of the civil jurisdiction, as hereafter is shewn. And the proprietors being sometimes governors, had likewise then the military power by commission, independent of the Lord Lieutenant for the county of Cornwall, except when he was also governor or proprietor of Scilly. But, in times, before any troops resided upon these islands, Mr. Heylin's assertion may be true, as is also what he farther asserts, "that they were also subordinate in the tin trade to the Lord Warden, and court of stanneries in Cornwall; an officer and court erected for the benefit and regulation of the tanners, who, by reason of their employment in the mines, have many privileges and exemptions more than other subjects; but of late are limited and restrained by acts of parliament." Thus far Dr. Heylin.

The

The learned doctor Gibson, (the late bishop of London) in his annotations upon Camden's Britannia, *anno* 1695, observes, that St. Mary's island in Scilly had a town called by that name: that the island was about eight miles in compass; and that near the town is a good harbour for shipping, in a sandy bay, wherein is anchoring at six, seven, and eight fathom water. That at the going in, rocks lie on either side. That the said island had antiently a castle which yielded to the force of time. But that Queen Elizabeth, *anno* 1593, built a new one, with strong ravelins, and named it Stella Maria, both in respect of the ravelins, which resemble the rays of a star, and the name of the island. And for defence of which island she there placed a garrison, under the command of Sir Francis Godolphin; and this when the Spaniards, called in by the leaguers of France, began to nestle in Little Britain. This account of St. Mary's Island, which I find to be true, thwarts Dr. Heylin's opinion, as to its government, by the time of rebuilding the said castle, when the command of the garrison was given to Sir Francis Godolphin, who is farther contradicted by that honourable person's being possessed of the civil power, before the rebuilding of the said castle. For before he had conferred on him the honour of knighthood, he had a grant of the Scilly islands for 38 years, by a patent, or indenture, bearing date the 14th of December, in the thirteenth year of Queen Elizabeth, as appears by my recital of the authorities of that grant, from the close rolls, (kept in the chapel of rolls, in Chancery-lane, London) to be referred to in the following history. The date of which grant, answering to the year of our lord, 1571, is 22 years before the year 1593, when St. Mary's castle was built, and therefore these islands had been many years under a separate jurisdiction before the year 1674, or even 1600, the time at farthest when Mr. Heylin says they were subject to the civil power, as a part of Cornwall, under the lord lieutenant of that county. The first grant of Scilly ended *anno* 1609. The next grant was made in the second year of King James the first to Sir William Godolphin, for 50 years after the expiration of the last term; the present term ending in the year 1659. The third grant was made in the twelfth year of King Charles the first, to Francis Godolphin, Esq. for 50 years after the expiration of the former term, whereby his term ended in the year 1709. The fourth and last grant was made in the tenth year of King William the third, to Sidney lord Godolphin, for 89 years, after the expiration of the last term to Francis Godolphin, Esq. and being granted (like all the rest) to his heirs and successors, the present Earl of Godolphin has an inheritance of these islands till the year 1798, when his term, and that of his successors, will expire.

On the last Saturday of every month, assemble the Court of Twelve, at the court-house, in Church-Town, where causes are heard and determined, by authority delegated to twelve persons, and a presiding military officer, as magistrate, who direct the government in all the islands. The exceptions to their determinations are, causes touching heresy, treason, man's life, or limb, property of land, and matters and offences on the sea, touching ships; which last belong to the determination of the high court of admiralty. And appeals of this island court are made to the lord proprietor, in matters which are special; who directs the justice in the islands.

Next to the magistrate, whose judgment is deemed of weight in the seat of justice, sits the agent, (now Mr. Thomas Smith) who holds the balance. The rest in order are usually, the chaplain, collector, commissary of musters, and seven other of the principal islanders; who are chosen at the relinquishing, or decease of any one of them, by the majority of the survivors of that assembly.

The person, who performs the church service at this island, is a chaplain, (but by some called the minister) who has neither institution, nor induction to this benefice,

nor visitation from the bishop ; but being bred a man of learning at one of the two universities, and failing in the church preferment which he was intended for, (as a rector of some parish) he obtains the performing of church offices in St. Mary's island ; for which office he is allowed a handsome salary by the lord proprietor, amounting, with the surplice fees, and a house allowed him to dwell in, to a good benefit. The tithes of the islands are all the proprietor's, as set forth in the several grants in this history.

The keys of the church are delivered to this gentleman, by the agent, when he is presented to his office, and resumed on any incapacity, or unfitness for his duty ; as was lately the case of a gentleman entrusted with the church-office here, who over-studied himself in mysteries of religion ; and at last went beside himself about what is past human comprehension to know.

The chaplain of St. Mary's visits the island of Tresco, at easter, where he gives a sermon, and is very generously received. He performs his offices at christenings, weddings, and the lord's sacrament for these islands, at the other times, in St. Mary's island, where he resides. The off-islanders in general come over to him for those purposes.

The four off-island teachers, who are fishermen, are appointed by the agent to read prayers, and preach in their respective churches (of Tresco, Bryer, St. Martin's and St Agnes,) according to the doctrine of the church of England. They are men chosen for their exemplary morals, and are no ill grace to the pulpit. Their reward is their reputation, in which they endeavour to excel ; and they practise goodness for esteem. What is farther remarkable of these off-island clergy, they take no surplice fees, nor require any.

The spiritual court of Scilly, is the ducking-chair, at the key-head, into which offenders (in language or morality) are put, by the order of the Court of Twelve, and receive their purification in holy, or salt water.

In the Isle of Man, scandal and false report are punished by putting the offender's tongue into a leather noose, exposed to view upon a scaffold ; where the offender having stood for some time, at the taking off this machine, (called a bridle to the tongue) the party is forced to repeat three times, "tongue, thou hast lyed ;" and so stand upon record.

Thus the distinct branches of power (unperplexed with Magna Charta) are improved, as the stream of a fountain refines, and improves, by descending over particular soils, and imbibing the qualities of them.

The inhabitants of Jersey, and for the same reasons those of Scilly, cannot be sued in any of the courts of Westminster, for any matter or cause arising within the same ; Scilly, as well as Jersey, being a distinct jurisdiction ; one under the direction of a lord proprietor, as the other is under that of Bailley.

In the latter days* of King Edward I. and throughout the weak reign of Edward II. a great breach was made in the jurisdiction of Jersey, by itinerant judges going thither, pestering the poor inhabitants with *quo warrantos*, not only calling public grants and privileges in question, but also private men's properties, to their farther vexation, in remitting them to the King's Bench till the fifth year of Edward III., when they were restored, by petition, to all their former rights granted by King John, and confirmed in the same, with other franchises and immunities, by a new and general charter.

From Jersey, appeals may be made to council-board in matters of civil property, above the value of 300 livres Tournois ; but not admitted for less value, nor yet in interlo-

* Hist. of Jersey.

tories, nor in criminal causes, which are judged there without appeal. And herein is shewn how infringements may happen in respect of the grants privileging in Scilly, which some have thought fit to dispute.

The punishments in Scilly are fines, whipping, or ducking out of hand. And it is observed, by the effect of those laws, that the people here are restrained from committing offences, without feeling conviction by the ruin of their properties. Here is no prison for the confinement of offenders, which shews, that the people live upright enough not to require any, or that the place is a confinement of itself.

It is remarkable, that no venomous insects or creatures harbour in these islands. And that attorneys, or sheriff's-officers, never shew their faces among these people, who live by their own distinct property and industry. The place is also clear of robbers, house-breakers, and highwaymen, since if any were disposed to set up those trades here, the limits of their situation would render it next to impossible for them to escape the hands of justice.

Constables, overseers, and church-wardens, are yearly chosen to serve their respective offices in the five inhabited islands of St. Mary, St. Martin, St. Agnes, Tresco, and Bryer, which are like so many distinct parishes.

The Hole in the garrison is the military prison, and a dismal hole it is! for by its contrivance close under a hill, the moisture upon the face of the stone walls runs down continually; and the bottom of a well, to lodge in, might challenge equal safety and accommodation; though some soldiers have been forced to pass their time in sorrow here three months, or more.

The inventor of this damp prison most certainly inverted the design of Perillus's brazen bull, for shutting men up, and drying them to powder by a fire made under it, which Phalaris the tyrant being shocked at, ordered the first experiment to be made upon the contriver, Perillus, *Nec Lex est justior ulla, quam necis artifices arte perire sua*. Nothing is juster, than that every contriver of mischief should suffer by his own invention. This chill punishment, or confinement, (instead of a dry lodging) is at the hazard of the prisoner's limbs, or life, till a court-martial, or farther punishment can be had. But Mr. Tovey has lately altered this prison much for the better. Whereas it is expressed by the articles of war, that an officer or soldier under arrest shall be brought to trial within eight days at farthest from the day of his confinement, here being in Scilly not officers sufficient for holding one, and no certain means of a passage betwixt Scilly and England, for procuring one elsewhere, an officer or soldier under arrest must suffer several months imprisonment before he can be heard, if his case should be just. Thus a late officer was confined to this room for some months, for refusing to do what he apprehended he had no authority for, without written orders, which were denied him; that is, he would not compel the islanders by force, to assist him in pressing hands for a man of war out of a merchant ship in the harbour, or help him in suppressing a quarrel betwixt the crews; which confinement, it is supposed, was the cause of his death.

The coin is of the same kind and value here with the current coin of England, except the Irish half-pence, which are the only change in the islands for silver, not intrinsic value, but of smaller size than the English half-pence, and are not current elsewhere. These half pence were first introduced by Irish traders hither, (some of Wood's agents employed by their honest proprietor.) At which time, an inhabitant or two, more avaricious than honest, favouring the imposition, made a considerable purchase of them by weight, (some say at the rate of about one third currency) and so stocked the islands.

The silver and gold coin of late brought here was principally for the payment of the king's works, by which the islanders were benefited in the circulation of some thousands of pounds among them, received of the workmen for provisions and necessaries; part of which workmen were foreigners from England, and about a third of them were their own people. The other money circulating here, is chiefly from the payment of the king's forces, (who are paid every two months, by the commanding officer) and also from ships putting in; by which their stock of money in trade upon the island differs, according to the visits they receive from foreigners, depending on uncertain accidents and occasions.

The soldiers are quartered about St. Mary's, in farmers and fishermen's houses, at four-pence per day; except a very few living in barracks in the garrison, who desire to provide for themselves.

The inhabitants in this country are not only contented with quartering the soldiers at four-pence per day, but some apply to the commanding officer to have them quartered upon them for expending their common island provision, (fish and potatoes) and turning it into money.

Though most of the private are public houses, where liquor is sold, without licence, all over the islands, as well as in Hugh-Town, they do not hold themselves obliged to quarter an officer, or accommodate him according to his rank, as being thought an inconveniency; who is therefore obliged to hire a house, to live in, at a considerable expence, by making an interest with the agent or people to get one.

The islanders pay neither land-tax, malt-tax, or excise. They having no hereditary land in any of the islands, nor land that can be purchased; and are backward in building houses at their own expence, and improving their land upon lease, for the reasons before observed. If any do build houses, which is but seldom undertaken, the property of those houses, at the end of about 21 years, or perhaps 30, (the utmost time allowed for possession) goes to the proprietor of the islands.

As there is no islander a freeholder in Scilly, so no person has a vote there for choosing members of parliament, nor are these islands represented by any; which shew that they are no part of the county, or county-jurisdiction of Cornwall; but are distinct from both, under a separate government. Some of the islanders can vote in choosing members for Cornwall by their purchase of freehold estates there.

In time of divine service, money is collected at church in St. Mary's, for the benefit of the poor, who are bound to pray for the generous masters of ships, and other strangers, who contribute largely to their happiness. And some, at this time, are very liberal to the poor's box, who dwell in this island.

The time of the greatest scarcity here is in the months of February and March, when the island-stock, laid in, but in part, by the common people, now deceived in their hopes of vessels putting in with farther supplies, is almost expended; and when, perhaps, a passage to England has not happened in three months. But some persons of better circumstances, and foresight than these, and not trusting to providence, beyond their foresight given, lay in a stock of foreign necessaries, sufficient to guard against all disappointments; out of which stock they supply their neighbours at a good advantage to themselves; and the occasions of some who can afford to pay for their negligence, in not using their own foresight.

The cattle, fowls, sheep, hogs, &c. in the islands, mostly the property of the upper people in the country, and not of the common inhabitants or traders in the towns, the latter in time of scarcity, are therefore little benefited by them, then sold at high prices by the owners, reserving them for the first top market at strangers coming in. But the

poorer sort of inhabitants never want a sufficiency of fish and potatoes, (their common food) nor yet of beer and barley bread, which abound throughout the islands. The greatest scarcity among the middling sort of people, is the want of common desirable luxuries; but are never so reduced as sailors are often on board of ships at sea. However most of the island-inhabitants are very hospitable and generous in their time of plenty.

They expose their lives to great hazards in venturing off, in their small boats at sea, to save the lives of their fellow subjects and others, by assisting ships in distress. Sometimes they save the people, together with the ship and cargo; sometimes the people only; and sometimes part of the cargo, when the people and vessel are lost. But they are sometimes ungratefully rewarded by the merchants for their salvage, who, of late, finding a pretence for taxing some with injustice, paid the whole number short of their agreement made with the master of a cloth-wreck, as also of the usual allowance made in such cases. This treatment reminds me of a true story of a rich clergyman in England, crying out to be saved, at the bottom of a well, into which he had fallen by making a false step, by himself, at a christening, rewarding his deliverer, a poor man going by, who heard his distress, only with a shilling; alledging, as an excuse for not parting with his money, that his deliverer had hurt him; which ingratitude occasioned the poor man's reply, "that if his reverence was ever saved again, it should be by God Almighty." But I am informed, that, in the salvor's abridgment of the aforesaid salvage, a Cornish justice or two were prevailed upon by the London merchants, to take upon them the determination belonging to the court of admiralty.

The custom-house of Scilly (taking notice of the duties on commodities brought to the place) was erected, in the time of Capt. John Crudge, about the year 1696, who then had there a company, and also the command as deputy governor. He observing some abuses committed in smuggling to England at that time, his representation thereof, occasioned the first settling of a custom-house, with its officers, in those parts. This gentleman was father to the present Mr. William Crudge, of Scilly, late commissary of musters there, whose father John Crudge, Esq. of Cornwall, married Ursula, second daughter of Sir Francis Godolphin, according to the peerage of England, by Arthur Collins, Esq.

Salutes, to his Majesty's garrison, by ships coming in, are frequently received; and as often returned by the order of the commanding officer. And by shipping thus coming from England, or abroad, the inhabitants of these islands are furnished with news and topics for conversation; as well as several kind tokens of the generosity of these strangers, with whom they sometimes make very friendly acquaintance. All civilities shewn to strangers are returned with signal marks of respect on board of their ships in the harbour, which continue there, sometimes, for six weeks, or two months; during which time and no other, St. Mary's island, and that of Tresco, appear like a country-wake, or fair in England; where you meet with jovial hearty souls, and generous friendship.

Of their Customs.

Persons of the middle rank are commonly addressed by the title of uncle, or aunt such-a-one, either according to their christian or fir-names; as aunt Sarah, aunt Ginver, aunt Chefin, aunt Gilliver, aunt Sherry, &c. Uncle Scaddin, uncle Ginver, uncle Frank, uncle Thias, uncle Sam, uncle Hicks, &c. who are all persons of some note in the islands.

Their

Their ovens are large iron kettles, or pots, which they wheel over things to be baked, upon heated iron plates, or stone hearth's; at the same time covering the outside of these kettle-ovens with turf-firing, which is their ordinary fuel. These kettle-ovens serve also for boiling; so that the inhabitants of Scilly may be said to boil and bake in the same oven. Thus they bake their large loaves of barley-bread. And their wheat loaves, and every thing else, are baked here according to this method, as properly as the common baking is done in England. Here are some common ovens, but seldom or never used.

Their method of brewing is pretty much the same as in several parts of England, except, as before was observed, that they do not, in general, brew their malt drink here in so great perfection as there: few having as yet attained that art; though a family or two can boast of as good beer, or ale, of their own brewing as any in England.

The common people mash their malt with a piece of wins, or furs, in the mash-tub, to prevent the malt running out with the liquor, instead of a basket used by some, for that purpose, which is a notable frugality.

At the christenings there is great feasting; and the sponsors for the new-born are greatly caressed by the aunts, (especially by the aunt-nurse and midwife) many strange things are rehearsed that happened in the times of their remembrance, when, by comparing notes, they agree, it is a good thing to marry, since, unless their forefathers and mothers had so done, they should never have met and known one another as true friends and neighbours: then t'other glass goes round, (approved by a nod of aunt Sarah) to the next happy meeting on the like occasion. Their spirits being thus elevated, and their tongues set a running, several deep and warm topics, which the present occasion naturally furnishes, are handled with great fluency; which concludes the whole ceremony.

Their marriages are performed without banns, or licence. And the chaplain's fee for the ceremony is what he chooses to take; a guinea, guinea and half, or more, according to the haste or desire of the couple to be married; or as the chaplain and they can agree. If they dislike the price, fixed by the chaplain, they are at liberty, he tells them, to cross the water to England, if they can make a cheaper bargain. But considering the trouble and expence of such a voyage, they generally comply with his terms; except when a couple go over to England, (by advice of aunt Sarah) to keep the time of their marriage a secret.

About 50 years ago, it was usual for those inhabitants, who desired it, to marry by first having their banns published in the church at Scilly; for which, and tying the knot, the chaplain, in those times, was paid five shillings, or not above half a guinea. But if the banns were not asked, nor desired that they should, the custom was then, as at present, for the chaplain to take what he could get. Soldiers and persons, at that time, not in circumstances to pay for being joined, either joined themselves, or were joined gratis, i. e. they were joined by vows, or taking one another's word, which was binding as long as they could agree. And this sort of conscientious binding was observed to hold as fast, and be as good a security of their future felicity, as if the parties had been tied together with the sacred shreds of matrimony. Their nuptials here are usually celebrated all the wedding-day with music and dancing; concluding with the bride's dance at night.

When an islander dies, some friends sit up the first night with the dead body, where it is a custom with them to feast cheerfully during the time. The next day in the afternoon the body is usually carried to the ground, by six or eight bearers, holding up

the ends of napkins, drawn under the coffin on each side of it, as they pass along. The mourners sing chosen psalms, during the time of procession, and express very great concern for the loss of their friend, whom they lament is no more to be seen. A funeral sermon, when desired on the occasion, is preached by the chaplain, who is well paid for his performance, and claims by the right of his office a scarf.

At Christmas time, the young people exercise a sort of gallantry among them called "goose-dancing;" when the maidens are dressed up for young men, and the young men for maidens. They visit their neighbours in companies, where they dance, and make their jokes upon what has happened in the islands, when every person is humorously told of their own, without offence being taken. By this sort of sport according to yearly custom and toleration, there is a spirit of wit and drollery kept up among the people. The maidens, who are sometimes dressed up for sea-captains and other officers, display their alluring graces to the ladies, who are young men equipped for that purpose; and the ladies exert their talents to them in courtly and amorous addresses: their hangers are sometimes drawn, &c. after which, and other pieces of drollery, the scene shifts to music and dancing; which being over they are treated with liquor, and then go to the next house of entertainment.

The custom of goose-dancing was formerly encouraged by the military officers living in these islands, who distinguished themselves by it among the ladies. They used to go in party-coloured dresses, half of one colour to the right and left, or above and below; exercising drawn swords, in their dancing, at the houses, where they entered and retired by procession of two and two. There was a serjeant Kite who acted his part in company, which was repeating verses in praise of a military life, and laughing people out of their money. At this time serenades in the night were in practice under the windows of the fair islanders, which at this day are not quite forgot.

They have a custom of singing carols at church on a christmas day, to which the congregation make contribution, by dropping money into a hat carried about the church when the performance is over; which is amusing enough.

On a shrove Tuesday each year after the throwing at cocks is over, the boys of this island have a custom of throwing stones, in the evening, against the doors of the dwellers houses; a privilege they claim time immemorial, and put in practice without controul, for finishing the day's sport. I could never learn from whence this custom took its rise, but am informed that the same custom is now used in several provinces of Spain, as well as in some parts of Cornwall. The terms demanded, by the boys, are pancakes, or money, to capitulate. Some of the older sort, exceeding the bounds of this whimsical toleration, in the dusk of the evening, set a bolted door, or window-shutter at liberty, by battering in breach with large pieces of rock stones; which sometimes makes a job for the surgeon, as well as for the smith, glazier, and carpenter. And the way of making reprisal, in such cases, is by a rope drawn across the way of these mischievous and masked batteries, by which they dismount their heavy artillery, making them ascend off their carriages, into the air, to return with their own weight.

Of kin to this custom in Scilly of throwing stones, the boys at Exeter, in Devon, have an annual one (not so hard) of throwing water; that is, of damming up the channel in the streets, at going the bounds of the several parishes in the city, and of plashing the water upon people passing by: this I was convinced of in May 1744, going that way to Scilly. Neighbours, as well as strangers, are forced to compound hostilities, by giving the boys of each parish money to pass without ducking; each parish asserting its own prerogative, in this respect.

As superstition, and especially that of witchcraft, has prevailed in all places of the British dominions, since there was an act of parliament ordained to punish it, and support its belief, (till the absurdity of that act was wisely repealed) it cannot be expected that these islands should be quite free of such delusions. Some few here imagine, (but mostly old women) that women with child, and the first-born, are exempted from the power of witchcraft; and tell you a story of a bewitching woman, that bewitched a man with blindness, who refused her a pin: as women and men here, like those in other places, are allowed to be concerned in the fascination of one another; and about the time of aunt Sarah's childhood, (who is now wisely stricken in years) fairies are said to have frequented Buffer's hill, in St. Mary's island; but their nightly pranks, aerial gambols, and cockle-shell abodes are now quite unknown. And haunted houses, giants, and apparitions (so terrible in Scilly some years ago) are now, by application made to the knowing men of Cornwall, all charmed, cast in a spell, or conjured out of the islands.

As first principles, education, and habit, are the foundation of future knowledge and belief, it is no wonder that notions, instilled by superstitious parents, nurses, and other such like teachers, should grow up into the inflexible tenets and opinions, they are found to do in some minds; though these islands are freer from superstition than many parts of the British dominions. Different religions, or modes of thinking and belief, are propagated and established in different parts of the world from first principles, education, and habit, in the maintenance of which some are enthusiastical enough to expose their lives; though there is but one true religion, faith, or moral, proceeding from God, or the voice of nature. Hence we observe, that all those who deviate from the unalterable dictates of God and nature, fall directly into the religious errors of this or that particular country, wherein they happen to be born, and are taught their various and unwarrantable opinions from which the christian doctrine only is allowed to be exempt, in its primitive purity and revelation.

For modes of faith, let graceless zealots fight;
His can't be wrong, whose life is in the right.

POPE.

The isle of man, described by a late author, is said to be so much under the arbitrary dominion of a certain priesthood there, that the minds of the people are bound in fetters of superstition, and enslaved by ignorance, to an uncommon degree, if what he says be true. For by his account they are taught to believe in the power of working miracles, and the island is infested with dæmons, apparitions, and witchcraft; notions which are not regarded in the islands of Scilly, except by a very few of the old women.

Mr. Dryden says on this head;

By education many are misled,
We so believe, because we so are bred:
The priest continues what the nurse began,
And so the child imposes on the man.

For want of male practitioners in physic, the few diseases, and hurts, in these healthful islands have, for these many years, last past, been remedied by a society of skilful aunts, constituting a sort of college of physicians in Scilly, of which aunt Sarah is the head or president, whose judgment, at a long consultation, is preferred to the rest, and who is first applied to in all difficulties. When they assemble upon a woeful, desperate,

perate, or doubtful case, they resign the patient to God and nature, while the attending doctress provides a warm room, a nurse, and fit necessaries, which co-operate with uncommon success. Common diseases here, not proceeding from luxury, laziness, and intemperance, are cured by one of the subordinate practitioners with a few simples, without calling in the assistance and judgment of a second or third graduate.

They are all good botanists, and have added a great many herbs to their catalogue, as also reduced many of the compounds of their dispensatory. They inspect not into the motions of atoms, particles, and corpuscles, nor pretend to analyze substances, nor yet to explain cohesions and attractions, densities and rarefactions, which to them is unintelligible jargon. They attempt not to anatomize matter, or account for its various and wonderful effects upon other matter, actuated by, or constituting a conscious substance. The mode of nervous sensation, and of muscular motion are to them inexplicable; as are likewise the mysteries of digestion, transmutation, and nutrition; generation, gravitation, and cogitation. They aim not to discover the series of infinite causes, and their dependent effects; but endeavour to excel in the experimental knowledge of their art. Their systems and hypotheses are to help those in distress for pity's sake rather than for profit. They have no ambition to be thought sagacious as conjurors, by significant nods, shrewd looks, and mysterious hard words, nor do they assume an air of importance for the sake of a fee. Their whole art is delivered in plain and intelligible English (like a famous modern treatise of operations in surgery) and their sole view is to remove pain and procure ease; for the performance of which their good will and experience are their directors; as a treat or value for their medicines is their only reward. And a sick stranger, or islander of circumstances, can seldom prevail with them to accept of any present till the cure is performed.

They have store of chemical and galenical medicines (like the brotherhood of foreign colleges) which are brought to these islands by surgeons of merchant ships and ships of war, who are sometimes apothecaries. The simples and compounds of their dispensatory consist only of such medicines as they have in the course of their practice, for some hundreds of years, found most effectual in removing hurts and diseases to which the islands are chiefly subject, whereby they have retrenched their *Materia Medica* to a very narrow compass; rejecting those medicines found of inferior effect. They have some disguised nostrums and specifics, the true secrets of which compositions are deposited with their president. And the methods or medicines they prescribe to their patients, they strictly pursue, or take themselves.

They read no lectures in anatomy, nor understand any of those technical terms; being not brought up to Latin and Greek; nor do they puzzle themselves about fibres, contextures, animalcula, prolific aura, ovaria, and fallopian tube. However they all understand the nature of propagation, and the operation of midwifry, at which they are all reckoned very skilful artists, to whom the present generation of Scilly are beholden for their appearance in the world.

They have no human skeletons to shew the articulation of the bones, whether by Gomphosis, Sutura, or Gynghimus; nor do they keep any stuffed skins of animals, whether of fishes, beasts, birds, or insects, to shew their judgments and apartments equally wonderful! but they direct the slipping in of a joint, joining a limb, by comparing it with its fellow, at the same time, applying something to ease pain, and wrapping the parts up till the cure is performed, or other judgment, if necessary, can be procured. Wounds are soon cured by their soft bandages and excellent warm balsams; and all swellings they quickly reduce by their comforting warm pultices! very needful on some occasions in these remote islands. Allwaging inflammation, laying open, and removing obstacles, according

according to proper methods, they leave the general work of healing to nature, whose art is wonderful. As to the president, Mrs. Sarah Jenkins, (commonly called aunt Sarah) being a person of singular skill and circumstance, she does many acts of charity and benevolence to the poor-distressed; to which the rest of the younger sisterhood, who are not a little amiable, contribute their parts.

The president is remarkable for her venerable long beard, which some imagine operates miraculously to the benefit of those who stroke it. Her deputy in surgery, bleeds, draws teeth, &c.

Of History.

Ships being sometimes lost on the coast of Scilly, by the neglect, or misconduct of the seamen, especially in bad weather, the merchants and some others, not always made acquainted with the true cause of those misfortunes, have an ill-grounded opinion of the situation of these islands, as well as a blind prejudice to the disadvantage of the inhabitants; not distinguishing that ships are as liable to be lost on many other parts of the English coast, if due care is not taken by the skilful mariner.

As to the Scillonians, whom a late * author has reflected upon for their conduct towards the merchant and persons shipwrecked on their coast, they are certainly much more known for their services to strangers, in such times of distress, than the Cornish, or any other inhabitants on the coasts of England.

* For the vindication of truth, and reputation of these natives, I here think myself obliged to take notice of the *concealed* author of the pretended *Tour through Great Britain*; who, in his false account of *Cornwall* (vol. i. p. 413, 414.) has made so free with the characters of these people, and islands that he never saw, nor could possibly be informed of, in so unfaithful a manner, except by the dictates of his own imagination.

He has assured the public that the said "islands lie sixty miles from the Land's End", which account is more by thirty miles than the truth.

He tells us also of "eleven sail of merchant ships, homeward-bound (though some from Spain) that run bump a-shore upon Scilly, and were lost; which having a great quantity of Bullion, or pieces of Eight on board, the money frequently drives a-shore still, in good quantities; especially after stormy weather." This account he delivers only upon tradition, which is as probable as it is consistent. Yet in the next paragraph he draws his conclusion upon the truth of the narrative: for, asserting his stay "several mornings in Scilly, after it had blown hard in the night, this may be the reason (says he) that we observed the sands covered with country people, running to and fro a-shoring to see what the sea had cast up of value." Now I appeal to any person living, that ever was a shore there, whether this author saw the place? or if this be the case?

He then goes on to characterize the inhabitants, comparing them to the dwellers upon the coast of Sussex; dealing cruelties to strangers coming a-shore in distress, and even among one another. Now, if such outrages were committed in Scilly, as this traveller (much at home) has peremptorily asserted, the persons vested with the authority of the civil and military power in these islands, must be guilty of the greater offence to suffer it; especially as these islanders, in all cases of tumult or insurrection, are immediately under the command of the garrison. So that whatever cruelties may be committed on coasts where an immediate controlling power is not at hand, it is impossible for such to happen on the coasts of Scilly, even if the people's morals did not incline them to behave otherwise; except the commanding officer, in the garrison, can be supposed in the plot. Several masters of ships, and their people, who, by distress of weather, have had the misfortune to be shipwrecked upon these coasts, can testify to the contrary of what this unmerciful author has represented. They can testify the voluntary kind services of the islanders in the preservation of their lives, and salvages of their ships cargoes; for which they had reward from the English, or other merchants. And even, in the late war, their enemy, the French, acknowledged the generosity and benevolence of a few fishermen, who, at the extreme hazard of their own lives, delivered the distressed Frenchmen from perishing among the western rocks, in a vessel they had taken from us, and brought in there by mischance: for which re-capture they received ample reward from the London merchants, (as in the text, farther on, I have observed) though these islanders, to their great discouragement, are sometimes slighted, or rather ill rewarded, by the merchant, for those services.

If a ship is not acquainted with the going at Scilly she must hoist her colours, and fire a gun for a pilot, when one or more will presently come off to carry her in, even in very bad weather. And so vigilant are all pilots in Scilly upon every such emergent occasion, that boats will put off from different parts of the islands at the same time, running the greatest hazard, endeavouring who shall first lay her aboard.

The pilots are paid from one guinea to five, and upwards, according to the weather, and the hazards they run in going off; and likewise of the value of the ship and cargo, which they bring in.

Sir Cloudefly Shovel, a native of Morston, near Clay, in Norfolk, after arriving to high honours in the service of his country, was lost near these islands, upon the Gilston rock, returning from Toulon, October 22, 1707, and not upon the Bishop and Clarks, as by some have been represented. It was thick foggy weather, when the whole fleet in company, coming (as they thought) near the land, agreed to lye-to, in the afternoon; but Sir Cloudefly, in the association, ordering sail to be made, first struck in the night, and sunk immediately. Several persons of distinction being on board, at that time, were lost; particularly the Lady Shovel's two sons by her former husband, Sir John Narborough, with about eight hundred men. The Eagle, Captain Hancock Commander, underwent the same fate. The Rumney and Firebrand also struck and were lost; but the two Captains and twenty-five of their men were saved. The other men of war in company escaped by having timely notice.

At the east part of St. Mary's island in Porth-hellic bay, the body of Sir Cloudefly came a-shore by the tide, after floating past several rocks, and lesser islands. Some relate he was first found up a hatch, with a little dog dead by him, he endeavouring, by that means, to save himself. He is said to have been taken up by a soldier belonging to St. Mary's garrison, who buried him in the sand at Porth-hellic. Being afterwards fought, he was discovered by the marks of his body, where he had been wounded, and was removed from thence by the Purser of the Arundel on board that ship in the harbour, where he was embalmed by the order of the commander. His body was from thence conveyed to Plymouth by the Salisbury, lying in state there, in the Citadel, till Lady Shovel ordered the removal of it to her house, in Soho-square, London. It was attended to the limits of the corporation by the mayor and court of aldermen with great pomp and solemnity, the whole garrison was under arms, during the time of procession, and cannon fired by minutes, to pay the honours due to the memory of so public a benefactor. After the honours done him at Soho, with a solemnity deeply expressing his Lady's and the public concern, his body was repositied in Westminster-abbey, among the heroes of renown, where the sad memorable story is written upon his tomb-stone. His Lady is said to have rewarded the soldier who first found the body with a pension for life.

It is from the near situation of the Moor-Ground to this bay of Porth-hellic, before-mentioned, that some have imagined it a place fit for improving into a safe harbour for ships, which they think might be done at a little expence; and that there are other places, at hand, fit for building vessels, ready to annoy the enemy, or for carrying on trade. And by Sir Cloudefly's body coming a-shore at this place some suppose that it pointed at some future benefit to this country.

About October, in the year 1736, a ship richly laden, called the Triumph, Captain Cross Commander, from Jamaica, for London, came a-shore upon the west part of St. Mary's garrison, in a violent storm, and striking near the Stevel Rock (see the map) went all to pieces, with her cargo a-float. The captain, carpenter, boatswain, and most of the crew were drowned, endeavouring to get a-shore, with the seas running over them;

them; but the surgeon, mate, and a few of the seamen were providentially saved. Some were lost by attempting to secure part of the money, some preserved, with bags of it brought a-shore, and others bruised to pieces among the rocks. The captain (being sensible of his inevitable fate) recommended the money to the care of the living, being about 10,000*l.* specie. The rich furniture was saved by the islanders, as part of the cargo, with a considerable quantity of the money, which was divided among the salvors, though the then commanding officer took proper share of it into possession for the widow of the deceased master. This accident is said to be owing to the ill conduct of the crew intoxicating themselves with rum, at coming into the foundings, and the thick weather, by the account of those who escaped.

About the year 1743, a Dutch East-Indiaman, outward-bound, was lost off St. Agnes in about 20, or 22 fathoms of water, with all the people. Their firing of guns, as a signal of their distress, was heard in the night; but none could give them assistance. Many of their bodies floated a-shore at St. Mary's, and other islands, where they were buried by the inhabitants. And some were taken up floating upon the tide, and were buried.

A Dutch lady, with her children, and servants, going to her husband, an East-India governor, was prevented seeing of him by this unhappy accident. A diver thereupon was sent, by the Dutch merchants, to discover and weigh the plate of considerable value. But the tide running strong at bottom, and the sea appearing thick, the diver could not see distinctly through the glass of his engine, so returned without success. This wreck still remains as a booty for those who can find it.

The figure of the diving-engine (made of thick planks, bound together with iron hoops, and headed at the ends) was a tapering-vessel in which the diver was plugged up, with as much air as could be blown into it, with a pair of bellows, at the time of his going down. His naked arms went out at a couple of round holes, next the biggest end; being exactly fitted to them, wrapped round with neats'-leather to keep out the water. Lying flat on his face, with his legs buckled down with straps to keep him steady, he looked through a piece of round glass, fixed right before him, in the side of the engine, of about six inches over, and two in thickness. Thus he descended by the force of weights fixed to the under parts of the engine. He carries a life-line in his hand, which he pulls hard upon, when he feels too much pressure, or wants to be drawn up. This engine is likewise supported with hoops on the inside, to counter act the pressure of the water without, in great depths. The biggest end of it, where the diver enters, is made to take off, being fitted with cross-bars and screws, to support it, when duly fixed. A plug-hole at the upper convexity, lets in fresh air when the diver is drawn up; for at being opened, the confined air rushes out. This plug saves the trouble of taking off the head of the engine, to give fresh air at each time of drawing it up.

Several wrecks are remembered coming a-shore among these islands, which would be tedious to describe in all their dismal circumstances, and therefore I shall add but little more on the subject; but shall observe that the people of Scilly are not such gainers by wrecks as some have imagined; for of what they get out of the sea they only enjoy a proportionable part for salvage; the rest belonging to the proprietor, or perhaps to the merchants. And as there is a military command, and civil power in the islands, these rights are duly looked after, for the persons to whom they properly belong. What is saved at the hazard of lives from the devouring of the sea, the salvors are, by right of nature, as well as of reason, entitled to a share of; the present agents' business being to distribute justice in that respect. A dead whale came a-shore *anno* 1745 among the

off-islands, by which the inhabitants of Tresco, Bryer, &c. were benefited in the Sperma Cæti, sold for six-pence per pound.

Since the damage in 1744, to these islands, by inundation, for want of proper banks being kept up against the low ground, the same year a fire broke out by some unknown accident, in the middle of the night, on October 24, 1774, in the lower rooms of the dwelling-house of Gilbert Leg, situated upon the high part of St. Mary's island, called Mount Toddin; the flames of which left only the walls of the house standing; and consumed all the necessaries that the poor sufferers had. One of their daughters at this time being in bed, in an upper apartment, who could not be got out, was burnt to death, and found half consumed the next morning. The poor parents, with the rest of their children, (miserably scorched and blistered, before they could quit the flames) had just time to escape with their lives, and were afterwards covered with great part of a new skin, by a surgeon, who happened to be present, in the islands at the time of the misfortune.

As the naked distress, &c. of these poor sufferers called for immediate charity and assistance, the benevolence of several persons appeared very remarkable, in covering their nakedness, and furnishing them with necessaries. The ship Phoenix was lost on September 19, 1745, upon the Gulf-Rock (before described) in a fleet, under convoy, going from Scilly to the isle of Wight, the men were then taken up, except two of the islanders lost. This ship was a re-capture from the French, taken by one of their privateers, near Scilly, coming from South Carolina, laden with rice, when French hands being put on board with intent of carrying her to the next French port, was brought, by mistake, among the rocks, where some fishermen of the islands, observing it, conducted her into St. Mary's road, under the command of the batteries. This was effected by four fishermen and a boy, who since have received a moiety among them of 3000*l.* salvage; the ship and cargo being valued at that sum by the London merchants, behaving honourably in this affair. The loss of other ships has happened upon this rock in the memory of persons living; concerning the nature of which there are various accounts. Some report its howling, by the waves or tides formerly rushing through its cavities, (whence it was called Wolf) which noise some pretend was a signal for mariners to avoid it; but fishermen in those parts being disturbed at the noise, silenced it, by filling up the vacuity with stones. A person taking a cursory survey of the channel, in the year 1742, as far as Scilly, took one of his stations at low water (as he told me) upon this rock, where he observed a cavity like a brewer's copper, with rubbish at the bottom, without being able to assign a cause for its coming there; and going to make his enquiry, the weather changing of a sudden, and beginning to blow, the seas beating over him, he could not inform himself; but was towed off, with his instruments, by a rope, cast from a boat at a distance.

For the better security of shipping in the channel he proposed, to the Trinity Board, the mooring of a buoy to this rock, in such a manner that it should swing clear of the rock, carrying a bell upon it, so as to ring by the motion of the waves, and to give notice of danger; but this jingling scheme (of Buoy Bells, upon the English coasts for alarming us) was not then accepted; on a supposition, that the fishermen (not approving the music) would remove the bells, when they caught no fish.

At Senen Church-town, near the extremity of Cornwall, there is the base of an old stone column, belonging to a building which was taken up by some fishermen, at the place of the Seven Stones (mentioned at the beginning) of about eighteen inches in height, and three feet diameter at the circular base. Besides which, other pieces of building, and glass windows, have been taken up at different times in the same place, with divers kinds

kinds of utensils; which circumstances, put together, persuade that, where the Seven Stones now appear in the sea, it was formerly dry land inhabited; as it is not improbable that the city called Lions stood there, spoken of by tradition, and that the said pieces of building and utensils are a part thereof. Nor is it less probable, that there was a tract of land called Lioness, extending itself from the present Land's End of Cornwall to Scilly, or beyond, which, according to tradition, was swallowed by the sea.

An eclipse of the satellites of jupiter was observed at Scilly, which being also observed at Greenwich, the difference of time betwixt the two meridians was found to be $26' 40''$, which being turned into degrees (by allowing 360 to 24 hours) gives $6^{\circ} 40'$ for the difference of longitude between Greenwich and Scilly. The latitude of St. Mary's island was then observed to be $49^{\circ} 55'$ and that of the Light House island $49^{\circ} 53' 30''$. The Lizard point of Cornwall and St. Mary's island I found to be nearly in the same parallel of latitude; bearing east and west of each other.

A Proposal, or Bill, laid before the Parliament by Mr. William Whiston, (April 25, 1716) for the better Direction and Preservation of Ships using the British Channel.

"Whereas it has been many years found, by sad experience, that not a few ships sailing into the British channel, have missed of their true course, and unexpectedly fallen either into the Bristol channel, or among some of the rocks of Scilly, not without great delays and danger, and the loss of many of them, of which Sir Cloudesley Shovel and his fleet are a late dismal instance; and whereas the present Light-House on St. Agnes island there, though otherwise very useful, is so far from being always an effectual remedy in this case, that as Dr. Halley, who has nicely viewed that place, has observed, it is frequently not safe to trust a ship in the night, since that very expectation seems often to have occasioned the loss of many ships. It is humbly proposed, in order to the security of navigation in that dangerous sea, that a ball of light or fire be thrown up from St. Mary's, the principal of the islands of Scilly every midnight, and three times more every night, to be proportioned as the necessities of navigation shall require. That the mortar and ball be such as may afford light above a degree of a great circle, or sixty geographical miles; and the sound heard above one third of the same distance, both which we know from frequent experience may certainly be done. And that the proposer and his assistants may be enabled, by a small duty upon the tunnage of ships, or otherwise, as to the wisdom of the parliament shall seem meet, to set about the same design immediately for the advantage of this nation, and the common benefit of mankind.

WILLIAM WHISTON."

As the commerce and prosperity of this nation greatly depends upon the skilful navigation of ships coming into the English channel from the ocean, I have here, for public benefit inserted the judicious directions of the gentleman whose name is underneath inserted, for the security of homeward-bound ships against the dangers of Scilly, St. George's channel, or the French coast, &c.

Captain Robert Brown's Directions for homeward-bound Ships coming into the English Channel.

First, I recommend that all ships and vessels, coming off the ocean, be steered in a parallel of latitude, not more nor less than $49^{\circ} 30'$; keeping your lead going, endeavour

your to strike the ground in 100 or 120 fathom water, which I call the outer-edge of the British bank or soundings; steer from thence E. B. S. $\frac{1}{2}$ S. in order to keep your latitude by the compass, till by your log you have run 80 leagues from the above soundings of 100 or 120 fathom eastward; then may you haul to the northward, and make the land at pleasure. But if interrupted by clouds or hazy weather, so that you have missed an observation for several days, whereby you cannot, with certainty, determine your latitude; in such cases, if you come into soundings from the western ocean, observe, as before, to get ground if possible, in 100 or 120 fathoms; which obtained, keep your log and lead going every hour, steering E. B. S. $\frac{1}{2}$ S. till, by your distance, you have run from the aforesaid soundings 40 or 45 leagues, and shoaled, your water gradually lessening to 60 fathom; then you may find it difficult to determine whether you are to the northward or the southward of Scilly; for the soundings on both sides I have often found to be pretty near alike.

Therefore to resolve this doubt, I recommend steering a southerly course from the aforesaid distance run, and depth of 60 fathom; and as you sail to the southward you will deepen your water from 60 to 70 and 75 fathom, which having done you may depend on the British channel being open, and clear from the danger of either running a-shore on Scilly, or into St. George's channel; too often the fate and case of ships, who, for want of such helps, are sometimes lost with the lives on board, or dangerously bewildered.

When you have got the depth of 70 or 75 fathom aforesaid, immediately alter the southerly course to E. or E. B. S. till, by your distance, you are shot within Scilly islands, the said places lying about sixty-two or three leagues from the western edge of the British soundings, then may you haul to the northward, and make the land as you think proper. But, if you come from the southward, the coast of Spain, Portugal, or Bay of Biscay, you must be likewise careful how you come in with the channel in thick weather; for as you strike ground with your lead you will often find coarse soundings; and, if near Ushant, gravel with small stones, which ground is much steeper than the edge of the western bank: for if you come into your soundings with the channel open, steering to the northward to make the Land's End, Lizard, &c. in running eight or ten leagues you will go from 100 to 75 or 70 fathom in the said distance; whereas, being to the westward, you may run 20 or 30 leagues, and not make more difference in your sounding than aforesaid. So that, from what I have advanced, it will be easy to determine whether you have the channel open or not; a dispute that has often puzzled the most experienced mariners, and skilful navigators, using these seas.

However, I must observe, that sometimes, in the aforesaid soundings, I have met with a strong northerly current, at the rate of about one mile an hour, which and about 17 degrees variation west at this time, should be duly accounted for, in order to keep the true parallel of latitude afore-mentioned; as likewise in some sea-charts the latitude of the Land's End, Lizard, &c. are laid down ten miles to the northward of their true latitude. So that if these impediments are not all duly considered, and allowed for, I say, from what I have already observed, an error may be easily contracted, greatly endangering the loss of a ship*.

* NOTE, That in coming up Channel, when a-breast off the Lizard, you will have 50 fathom water, and off the Start Point 45. The practical mariner finding it difficult to get ground in a storm, or hard blowing weather, at 100 or 120 fathom, coming into channel, he may follow the above rules, getting ground at 80 fathom or less, by making proper allowance, according to the depth of water.

These directions being carefully observed, your latitude and distance will be corrected, and a tolerable knowledge of the ship's position may be inferred.

And I would also advise all ships to be careful how they deal with the French coast; for let the weather be as it will, after having run the distance aforesaid, off the islands of Scilly, then make bold with your own, in order to shun falling in with the islands of Guernsey, Jersey, &c. which so often ends in frightful circumstances of both ships and lives.

And lastly, observe, that in sounding a stream and to the westward of Scilly you will find bluish oozy ground; so that when by your lead you have such ground, you may be assured where you are, and therefore shape your course accordingly.

The inhabitants of Scilly, feeling the effects of their remote situation, are solicitous of improving their industry, in being enabled to set up and carry on a fishery in the islands; promising themselves equal success with the inhabitants of Cornwall, or other subjects; their situation for such an undertaking being inferior to none. Their hopes are still in having a drawback, or debenture, upon salt, allowed them, by authority of parliament, like the island of Jersey, whereby they would be enabled to send their salted fish to market. But, in their present circumstances, not being able to pay the English duties on salt, till they can dispose of their commodity, their service to their present generation is greatly retarded.

They cure most of their fish with French salt, purchased for a low price. They exceed all others in the art of curing ling, which the Cornish take off their hands, having none so good of their own; who, by their county-interest, I am told, hinder the promotion of these islanders in the several branches of fishery, for the lucre to themselves.

There being no decked vessel, at present, belonging to the islands, fit to put to sea in bad weather, or upon emergencies, the inhabitants are the more perplexed in their trade and supply of convenient necessaries. Nor can certain intelligence be given to England, for want of a decked vessel, if an enemy should attempt to land. In the passages betwixt England and Scilly, made in the small island-boats, with the sea frequently breaking over them, passengers (like the islanders) should be qualified to endure wetting or the weather, like so many ducks: for when the boat is half-filled with water, as it frequently happens, by the sea breaking in, the odds of sinking to swimming are pretty considerable. However, the boatman undertakes to empty the water with his hat, or what comes to hand, without the least concern; though, notwithstanding his bravery, he is sometimes glad to return from whence he came to look his friends once more in the face; for which he has but small time allowed him. A boat sometimes fills, or over-sets, in being too desperate; when the Captain and all his crew steer directly to the bottom. An instance of which sort happened to a boat going from Pensance to Scilly some time ago, when they took their departure from Mounts-bay; but were never heard of since. And misfortunes of this kind are too frequent among the islanders in going from one island to another, by which accidents at different times these islands have been very much unpeopled. A small sloop, in the possession of the agent, though a bad sailer, and chiefly in use for his own affairs, afforded some conveniency to these islanders; but going over to England, in the beginning of the year 1745, in a decayed condition, was broke up at Pensance for firing; there being no decked vessel belonging to the islands ever since.

A clergyman, of learning and capacity, lived in these islands a few years ago, by whom many of the youths were greatly benefited, and improved in their education, when the islanders in general received uncommon advantage in their literature and morals; several

ral of whom have since risen to preferment in England, and become very useful members of society.

Monumental Inscriptions in the Church and Church-Yard of St. Mary's Island, in Scilly.

To the memory of Frances the wife of Joseph Hunkins, of Gatherly, in the parish of Lifton, in Devonshire, governour of the islands of Scilly.

She was the daughter of Robert Lovies, of Beardon, in the parish of Boyton, in Cornwall, Esq.; died the 30th day of March, 1657, about the 46th year of her age.

Blest soul, thy race is run, whilst we behind
Strive for that crown which thou, prepar'd, didst find,
In Christ, for thee, here shall thy body rest,
Till with thy soul it be for ever blest.

Here lieth the body of John the son of Thomas and Mary Ekins, of the island of Scilly, who was born the 16th of February, 1670, and died the 4th of November, 1675, *Non mortuus, sed dormit.*

Here lies the body of Peter Rattenburgh, late commissary of this island, who died the 4th of May, *anno domini* 1709, and in the 67th year of his age.

The law of kindness was in his heart, and
Truth and justice in his lip and life.

Here lieth the body of Elizabeth the daughter of Peter and Hannah Rattenburgh, who died March 22, *anno dom.* 1704, in the 20th year of her age. Also the body of Robert Rattenburgh, who died March 24, aged six years and five months, *anno dom.* 1707-8. Likewise, the body of Foscarinus, son to Peter and Jane Rattenburgh, who died April 3, *anno dom.* 1708, in the 5th year of his age. Here also, after having succeeded his father as commissary of the island not full three years, lie the remains of Martin, son of Peter and Jane Rattenburgh, interred April 2, *anno dom.* 1712, in the 19th year of his age.

Here lieth Robert and Sarah Wyeth, late of Wood-bridge, in Suffolk: he died on St. Agnes island, in the 69th year of his age: she died on this island, in the 72d year of her age. They were buried on the 11th and 17th of August, *anno dom.* 1717.

Here lieth the body of Jane the wife of Thomas Brown, of Newcastle-upon-Tyne, master and mariner. He had born, by her, five sons and one daughter. She died in her passage from Rochel, in France, May 4, 1713, and was buried here May the 6th following, being in the 30th year of her age.

Here lieth the body of Dinah (I suppose Diana) the wife of George Hooper, who died the 5th day of April, *anno dom.* 1722, in the 82d year of her age.

In Cornwall was she born, Cornwall her breeding gave,
Scilly a husband, six children, and a grave.

Here also lies the body of Henry, the son of George and Dinah Hooper, who died the 12th day of July, *anno dom.* 1720, in the 49th year of his age.

With some others, of which these are the principal.

The language spoken in Scilly, is a mixture of the west-country dialect, with the common English.

For a list of the abbats, who governed in Scilly, see Mr. Brown Willis's mitred parliamentary abbays, v. i. p. 170. Where, from the first abbat Almerus, made at the finishing the church, *anno* 981, he enumerates 32 to the time of John Dymington in the year 1458, who obtained for himself and successors, abbats of Tavistock, the use of the mitre and all the pontifical habits, as may be seen by the patent printed in Rymer's *Fœdera*. This patent contains the power of benediction at masses as other bishops use. To follow any suit in the Popes court to him and his successors for ever. With licence granted to receive letters and apostolical bulls, to execute, read, or cause to be read, without molestation or annoyance of any of the said abbats, their proctors, favourers, counsellors, assistants, adherents, publishers, &c. for putting the same in effect, notwithstanding any ordinances, provisions, acts or other clauses before containing the contrary: witness the king at Westminster, the 3d day of February, 36 H. VI. with this John Lymington to John Peryn the last abbat, he enumerates five abbats inclusive, in all 37. For surrendering the said abbey, with 20 of his monks, in March 20, 1538, he obtained for himself a pension of 100l. *per ann.* for his life.

King Æthelstan came to the crown of England *anno* 925. He erected a monastery of Benedictines at Exeter in 932, which probably was done soon after his conquest of Scilly at his return to England; which conquest thereof might be about 927. An abbey of Benedictines was founded at Tavistock by Ordgar Earl of Devonshire, including Scilly, and dedicated to St. Mary and St. Rumon, 961. This abbey was valued at 902l. 5s. 7d. *per annum*, 26 H. VIII. 1535. The islands of Scilly were mostly governed by lords, abbats, and coroners, from the time of their conquest by King Æthelstan till 30 H. VIII., when the abbey of Tavistock was dissolved, as also about which time were all others, 1539. From one part of the dedication of this abbey (including Scilly) to St. Mary, it is probable that the island of St. Mary, the chief of Scilly, borrowed its name.

After the dissolution of abbeys and monastical estates, the ecclesiastical jurisdiction of Scilly devolving to the see of Exeter, the civil power was granted by the crown to lords proprietors, on condition of their paying certain rents into the hands of the receiver for the dutchy of Cornwall, for the tenure of those islands; by which they came to be acknowledged as part of the jurisdiction of the said dutchy; but only by the king's favour: for I cannot find by any records that they were ever annexed thereunto.

They are subject by the said grants only to the laws of their own court of civil judicature, in all matters of debt, trespass or property, in dispute; the high sheriff for the county of Cornwall having no authority in Scilly, except by permission of the lord proprietor thereof.

And here I shall observe, that in the grant of the dutchy of Cornwall (which I have seen) to the Prince of Wales, as eldest son of England, there is no mention made of the islands of Scilly; though boroughs, franchises, liberties, corporations, privileges, immunities, &c. are particularly and numerously recited; whence if Scilly appertains, or is a part of the said dutchy, it is rather permitted by favour than given to be so by royal authority; especially as the grant of those islands to several late proprietors, is expressed in so ample a manner.

The following Deeds, Grants, Records, &c. shew the Nature of the Government of Scilly, and what has been done there according to the Succession of Years, for which they are collected.

HENRY I. King of England * grants to William Bishop of Exeter, and to Richard son of Baldwin, and to his justiciary of Devonshire and Cornwall, in perpetual alms to Osbert, abbat of Tavistock, and Turol, his monk, all the churches of Scilly with their appurtenances and the land, such as the monks or hermits held in the time of King Edward, and Burgal Bishop of Cornwall.

Reginald (the king's son) Earl of Cornwall, had a confirmation of the same, and wreck of sea, which was vested in him, as is apparent from the following charter.

Reginald, † the Earl of Cornwall, the King's son, to all his barons and his bailiffs of Cornwall, and Scilly greeting, Know ye, that I, for the sole sake of Henry my father, and mine own, have granted and confirmed in fee and perpetual alms to the monks of Scilly, as to the proper prebends of my father all wreck in them islands (which they hold) which shall happen, except whale and a whole ship, that is to say, Rentemen, and Nurcho; and in the island of St. Elidius, St. Sampson, and St. Theona. Witness Ralph de Boroard, at Dorchester.

The confirmation of B. Bishop, of Exeter, of the tenths of Scilly, is thus;

B. Bishop of Exeter ‡, Know ye, that I have seen and read the deed, in which Richard de Wich confesses, that he granted in fee, or perpetual alms, all the tenths of Scilly, and namely of Coneys, which he unjustly detained from the monks, because he thought the tenths were not the right of the abbat, and convent of Tavistock, and their brethren of the monastery of St. Nicholas of Scilly; for his soul and the souls of his parents, and of Reginald, the Earl of Cornwall, his Lord. And this grant by the book of the Evangelists, with my own hand I offer upon the altar of the blessed Rumon, at Tavistock, in the presence of B. abbat, and the convent of the same, and many others: because as well the monastery of Tavistock, as all the land of Richard de Wich of Scilly, belonging to my diocese. And I, as bishop and diocesan by episcopal authority, and this present writing and sealing, do allow and confirm.

Pope Celestine § by his Bull (dated 4 Cal. June, A. D. 1193) confirms to Herbert, abbat of Tavistock, and his successors, the islands of St. Nicholas, St. Sampson, St. Elidius, St. Theona, and the island, called, Nullo, with their appurtenances. And all churches and oratories built throughout the islands of Scilly; with the tenths and offerings, and other appurtenances. And two pieces of digged ground in the island of Agnes; and three pieces in the isle of Ennor.

John ||, by the grace of God, &c. Know ye, that we have given, granted, and confirmed to the abby of Scilly the tythe of three acres of Aflart land in the forest of Guffer. Witness ourself, &c.

John, by the grace of Grace of God, &c. To all sheriffs and their bailiffs, greeting. We command you, that you suffer not the Canons of Scilly to be impleaded for any tenement which they hold, except before us, or our steward of Normandy. Witness ourself at Argenth, the 7th day of July, in the first year of our reign.

* Monast. Anglican. v. i. p. 1002. Et ex Cart. pred. E. 3. a. penes Johannem Maynard, Armig.

† Ibid.

‡ Ibid. Cod. Fol. 24.

§ Monast. v. i. p. 9, 8.

|| Cart. 1. Joan. p. i. n. 219.

King Henry III., commands Drew de Barrentine, Governor of his islands of Scilly, or his bailiffs, that they deliver every year to Ralph Burnet seven quarters of wheat, which Robert Legat used to receive, and which is escheated to the king.

The same king sends his mandate to the barons of the exchequer to allow, on account, to Drew de Barrentine, Governor of our islands, out of the farm of the same, 20l. viz. 10l. for the 33d year of his reign, and 10l. for the 34th year, in lieu of 10l. yearly lands, which he granted him by his deed in the islands aforesaid. Witness the King at Rading, January 26.

Also the same King commands the same Barons to deliver to his beloved and faithful subject Drew de Barrentine, Governor of the said islands, out of the issue of the said islands, five marks which he paid by the said King's command to Guischarde de Cranvil by gift of the said King. Witness the King at Windsor, the 21st day of January. There is also another grant from that King to the Barons of the Exchequer, thus: Allow Drew de Barrentine, Governor of our islands, forty marks, which he paid, by our order, to our beloved and faithful subject and servant Nicholas de Moles, and thirty marks which he laid out for his expences, when he was last in our service at Gascony. Witness ourself at Haverling, the 19th day of August.

Affize Roll, * taken before John de Berewick, and other Justices at the Court of Launceston (in com. Cornub.) at Michaelmas Term, *anno* 30 Edv. I.

The abbat of Tavistock being summoned to answer to the King in a plea of *quo warranto*, by what right he claimed the shipwrecks happening in all the islands of Scilly, the abbat appears, and says that he and all his predecessors had enjoyed them without interruption for time immemorial; and therefore desires that his right may be tried by a jury. When John de Mutford joins issue for the King, and, upon enquiry being made, the jury found that the said abbat, and all his predecessors, had enjoyed all the wreck that had happened in all the aforesaid islands for time immemorial; except gold, whale, scarlet cloth, and fir, or masts, which were always reserved to the King, in the respective grants of those islands.

For the King, and William Le Poer, the King's coroner.

King Edward the First to his beloved and faithful Henry Spigurnal, Roger de Beufou, and Thomas de le Hyde, greeting.

WE understand, by the grievous complaint of William Le Poer, our coroner in the islands of Scilly, belonging to our county of Cornwall, that whereas he lately, for the preservation of the peace at La Val, and Trescaw, in the islands aforesaid, did repair to enquire of manslaughter, robberies, incendiaries, and other felonies; and receivers of goods feloniously stolen; and of wreck of sea, as to the said office appertaineth. Ranulph de Blackminster, Michael Petit, Edmund Speccot, John Gabbere, Robert, abbat of Tavistock, frier; John de Yalineton, frier; John of Exeter, and Oliver of Scilly, chaplains; the aforesaid coroner, by force of arms, imprisoned, ill used, and there did maliciously procure him to be kept, at the said town of De La val, until such time as the said coroner paid a fine to the said Ranulph, Michael, Edmund, John, abbat, John, John, and Oliver, and the malefactors aforesaid, of 100 shillings for his enlargement out of the prison aforesaid. Also, whereas the same Ranulph holds the castle of En-

* In the Record-Office, belonging to the Court of Receipt of Exchequer, Chapter-House, Westminster.

nor, in the islands of Scilly, by the service of finding and maintaining twelve armed men, at all times, for keeping the peace in those parts; the said Ranulph did not find the said armed men; but receives felons, thieves, outlaws, and men guilty of manslaughter in those islands, by which the said coroner and his bailiffs are hindered from coming into the said islands to do their duties, or execute the King's writs, being therefore unwilling that such trespasses shall go unpunished, we have assigned you justices to enquire into the truth of the same. Witness the King at Lamecost, the 22d day of November.

King Edward II. to his faithful Gilbert de Knovil, Roger Beafou, and John de Bateford, greeting.

WHEREAS King Edward, our father, at the prosecution of Will Le Poer, our coroner in the islands of Scilly, which belong to the county of Cornwall, suggested to our said father, that Robert de Saint Ola, Roger Tregreane, Roger de Nautener, Richard de Kettringhou, with other malefactors and breakers of the peace, himself being lately at Val and Trescaw, in the islands aforesaid, making enquiry as belongs to his office, into manslaughters and felonies committed, and of wreck of sea, they took and imprisoned; keeping him in the said prison of La Val until such time as he compounded for a fine to the no small damage of the said coroner. That he assigned Henry de Staunton, Roger de Suthcotes, and Hugh Peverel, or two of them, justices, to enquire into such trespasses, and to hear and determine the same according to law. And they being duly summoned to appear and answer such trespasses, were outlawed; which outlawries our father pardoned by his letters patent, so that they rendered themselves up to our prison at Launceston, and behaved according to law. And the said persons rendered themselves accordingly, and still remain in the said prison. And whereas the power of the said commissioners, by the death of our father, ceased to the prejudice of the said persons imprisoned, we, for the speedier remedying of the case, have assigned you justices to hear and determine the same, doing justice according to law. Dated at Langly, the 24th day of November.

The following Charters shew the Possessors of Lands in Scilly.

ENNOR castle, in Scilly, was held of the King by the service of finding and maintaining ten armed men in the said castle in peaceable times. Pat. 35. Ed. I. m. 45.

John, son of Malger, son of Sir John Cornwall, Knt. releases to Osbert Hamely and his heirs, all his right in all his messuages, lands, and tenements, in the island of Agnes, in Scilly. Dated at Millum, the morrow after St. Peter's day. 3 Ed. III.

John Hamely, and Margery his wife, by fine levied, 5 Ed. III. had conveyed to them for their lives, a messuage and acre of land, in Kilmonseg; and the moiety of the manor of Alet; the remainder to John, son of the said John, for his life; remainder to Ralph, brother of the said John, the son and heir of his body; remainder to the right heirs of Margery aforesaid. By another fine levied that year, the premises are settled on John de Hamely, and the heirs of his body; remainder to Andrew, brother of the said John, and the heirs of his body; remainder to the right heirs of the said John.

John de Allet holds all the lands and tenements in Scilly of Ralph Blankminster by knights service, and by being keeper of the said Ranulph's castle; and by other personal services by himself, or by two men. Which Ranulph releases the service of keeper to the said John Allet, in consideration of 13s. 4d. yearly to be paid. Dated at Tregamedon, Tuesday after the feast of St. Ambrose. 10 Ed. III.

A licence granted to Scilly abby to purchase of A. Aslakby one messuage, 28 acres, and one rood of land; and three roods of meadow and pasture; and pasture for four oxen in Stanford and Dunne. Pat. anno 15 Ed. II. p. 1. m. 23.

Scilly (under the Jurisdiction of Cornwall) a Cell to Tavistock, as appears by the following Grants.

A Grant of King Edward the Third of Secular Canons, in the Place of Monks to be sent to Scilly.

THE King to all his bailiffs and faithful subjects, to whom these presents shall come, greeting. Our beloved people in Christ, the abbat and convent of Tavistock, lords of the islands of Scilly, dwelling within the seas, have prayed, that whereas the abbat aforesaid, to whom the said island belongs, and was founded by our progenitors, late Kings of England, and the same abbat and certain abbats, of the abbey aforesaid, for the time being, were bound to find two chaplains; their fellow-monks, within the island aforesaid, by reason of their lands and tenements there lying, of the same our progenitors, and of our heirs, daily to say mass for ever; and that the same monks, by means of the war between us and the men of France, as likewise by other various causes now moved, that we should grant to them two secular chaplains to perform divine service instead of the aforesaid monks, daily, within the island aforesaid, to celebrate the mass during the war aforesaid: we willingly agreeing to this petition of granting to the said abbat, during the war, two fit and secular canons to perform divine service within the islands; provided that the said chaplain shall do the duty which the said monks did perform; as it is meet without impeachment of us, or our heirs, justices, escheators, sheriffs, or other bailiffs, or our servants whatsoever, &c. In witness whereof, &c. Witness the King at Westminster, the 28th day of May.

From a manuscript found in the Survey of the Duchy of Cornwall, 19 Ed. III., are these Particulars of Tenures.

PENEWYTHS. Ranulphus de Albo Monasterio ten. Insulam de Scilly redd. per ann. ad decm. fm. ccc volucres vocat, Poffins, vel vi. viii^d.

Ranulph de White Monastery, holds the islands of Scilly, paying yearly, at the feast of St. Michael the archangel, 300 birds called Puffins, or 6s. 8d.

Ralph Hamely grants to his brother Laurence, Agnes island in Scilly, with the rents and services of the same, consisting in dried fish and wrecks of the said island, paying yearly for seven years to come, a grain of wheat; and after that time 100s. sterling. Dated at Alet, Tuesday the feast of the annunciation of the Virgin Mary, 25 Ed. III.

After the decease of the said Lawrence, the remainder to Walter Smith for his life, remainder to Thomas Blankminster for life, remainder to the right heirs of Sir John Blankminster aforesaid. Dated at Bename, Monday after St. Ambrose's Day, 46 Ed. III.

Arthur, son and heir of Randolph Hamely, lord of Helwyn, grants to Osbert Hamely his uncle, the manors of Tregenon and Alet, and all those his messuages, lands, and tenements, in Kilmonseck, Tregueran, Trewyns, and Pinshall, with the fealty and service of Margaret late wife of Randolph Hamely, and an English acre of turff-land in Goutheth; and also all those his messuages and lands in Scilly, in the island called Agnes,

to have and to hold to the said Osbert, and the heirs of his body, paying yearly a grain of wheat. Dated at Helwyn, Monday before St. Margaret's day, 11 Richard II.

Osbert Hamely, and Maud his wife, recite that his father John Hamely, Lord of Helwyn, granted to John de Rosworogan, his heirs and assigns, 40l. yearly, payable out of all those lands, messuages, and tenements, in the towns of Kilmonseck, Beugeuran, and Trewyns; and in Agnes island in Scilly. Dated Monday before the translation of St. Thomas the martyr, 11 Rich. II.

Letters of Protection for the Prior of St. Nicholas, in the Isle of Scilly.

EDWARD III.* King of England, to all and singular dukes, earls, barons, admirals, knights, mayors, sheriffs, masters and mariners of ships, bailiffs, and other our friends and faithful subjects whatsoever, to whom these present letters shall come; and to the constable of the castle of the isle of Ennor, in Scilly, who now is, or for the time being, shall be appointed, greeting. Our beloved in Christ the prior of the priory of St. Nicholas, in the island of Scilly, represented unto us, that our progenitors were founders and patrons of the same, as we are now; and that the said priory, by the frequent access of the mariners of ships of all nations resorting to the said island, for default of guard, the said priory is so much destroyed and impoverished, that the said prior is not able to undergo the charge of repairs, whereby the charitable works of our progenitors are diminished. We therefore graciously condescending to their petitions, have taken the said prior, priory, monks, chaplains, and men servants, possessions, and all things whatsoever, under our special protection. Therefore we command you, all our faithful subjects, that ye maintain, protect, and defend them; and you the said constable, if any such things should happen, to do all that is in your power for satisfaction to be made unto them. Witness ourself at Westminster, the 28th day of October, in the 41st year of our reign.

Guernsey, Jersey, & Insulæ concessæ p. Regem Hen. Dno de Scilly, ad vitam; post mortem Odonis de Grandisino, Pat. 16 Ed. II. p. 2. m. 5.

Scilly abby, dedicated to the Virgin Mary of the Premonstratensian order, demises to the house of the blessed virgin of Bois, in Axholme, aforesaid; and in Stockwith, for 100 years; paying yearly 8l. Claus. 28 H. VI. m. 5.

Osbert Hamely grants to Richard Alet of Mugwunt, all those his messuages, lands, and tenements in Tregeuran and Kylmensham, to have and to hold for six years, paying yearly a grain of corn. Dated at Alet, the Monday after Michaelmas day, 5 H. IV.

Sir John Colshull, Knt. Monday before the feast of St. Katharine, in the 6th year of the reign of King Henry V. (anno 1418) conveyed to John Preston and others, the castles and isles of Scilly to the use of Sir John Colshull, Knt. for life†.

Henry Nankskelly, vicar of the church of St. Ide, grants to Arthur Hamely, and Isabel his wife, the moiety of Alet manor, and all those his messuages, lands, tenements, rents, and services of tenants, in the towns of Helwyn, Landgergala, Tregennou, Lan-

* Dugd. Monast. p. 1002.

† When a person died possessed of an estate in lands, the king directed his writ to the escheator of the county to take the lands of the person dead into his hands; and to enquire by a jury of twelve persons of the tenure, value, and who was next heir. The nature of an office of escheator being to enquire and receive the rents or value for the king, of the persons who were tenants under him.

vyham, Fenteuyegn, Pennans, Trencruck, Tregontros, Bleythboll, Logoseck, Kerthu, Maskevammogh, Padestowe, Kilmonseck, and Scilly island, called Agnes; with the reversions of the same, for and during their lives. Dated at Helwyn, on the feast of the conception of the Virgin Mary, 6 H. V.

John Colshull, son and heir of Sir John Colshull, Knt., and John Cork, by a fine levied in the 18th H. VI. (*anno* 1440) conveyed the manors of Bydman, Straton, and St. Mary Wyke, the isles of Scilly, one messuage, two carrucates of land, 20 acres of meadow, and 100 acres of wood, with the appurtenances in Swainton, and the advowson of the church of St. Mary Wyke to Nicholas Aysston and others, who granted the same to John Colshull, and to the heirs of his body; remainder to Johanna, sister of the said John, and the heirs of her body; remainder to Thomas Nevyl of Pycall, Knt. and the heirs of his body; remainder to the right heirs of Guy de Blankminster, rector of Lanfayls. By virtue of which conveyance the said John Colshull died seized of the premises; and after him, Johanna, his sister, wife of John Houghton, died also seized, without heir. The islands of Scilly were held of the King, as of his castle of Launceston, and by the rent of 50 puffins, or 6s. 8d. yearly. The said islands are yearly worth, in peaceable times, 40s. and, in times of war, nothing.

Edmund, son of Lawrence, grants to Sir John de Aled and his heirs, the whole island of Agnes in Scilly, with whatsoever to the said island belongs. With all liberties, customs, and wrecks of sea: to have and to hold to the said Sir John, his heirs and assigns, as chief Lords of the islands of Scilly, payable yearly on Michaelmas day, at Scilly, half a mark.

Edmund, Earl of Cornwall, was seized of the castle, borough, and manor of Launceston, and also of Scilly, for which last there were accounted no knight's fees, as in the dutchy of Cornwall.

Extract from the Surrender made to King Henry the Eighth, by John Peryn, Abbat of the Monastery, or Abby and Church of the Blessed Mary the Virgin, and St. Rumon of Tavistock, in the County of Devon, of the Order of St. Benedict, and the Convent of the same place, to which Scilly was an Appendix.

OF all, and singular their manors, lordships, messuages, gardens, curtilages, tofts, lands, and tenements, meadows, feedings, pastures, woods, underwoods, rents, reversions, services, mills, passages, knights fees, wards, marriages, bondsmen, villains, with their followers; commons, liberties, franchises, jurisdictions, offices, courts-leet, hundred-courts, view or frank-pledge; fairs, markets, parks, warrens, running waters, fisheries, ways, waste-grounds, advowsons, nominations, presentations, and donations of churches; vicarages, chapels, chauntries, hospitals, and other ecclesiastical benefices whatsoever; rectories, vicaries, pensions, portions, annuities, tythes, oblations, and all singular emoluments, profits, possessions, hereditaments, and rights whatsoever; as well within the county of Devon, as within the county of Cornwall, Dorsetshire, Somerset, Gloucestershire, Wiltshire, or elsewhere within the kingdom of England, and marches of the same, unto the same monastery or abbey of Tavistock in any manner formerly belonging, appertaining, or incumbent. To hold the same to the king, his heirs, and assigns for ever; ratifying and confirming the same by renouncing all their former claim or right whatsoever. Dated in their chapter-house of Tavistock, the 8th day of March, *anno* 30 H. VIII.

N. B. In the foregoing Deeds, &c. Sulley or Silley, was written for our present Scilly.

The

The foregoing charters, deeds, &c. are translated from their Latin originals.

It is not certain how these islands of Scilly were disposed of, after the dissolution of the said monastery, for the space of about 30 years: but in 13 Eliz. they were granted by patent or lease to the honourable Francis Godolphin, Esq. (afterwards Sir Francis) for the term of 38 years, and have continued in the possession of this noble family ever since; which appears by the following leases or patents, specifying the conditions of their tenure, under the crown of England.

Extracts of the substance of grants of the Islands of Scilly.

Indenture, dated 14 December, in the 13th Year of Eliz. The Queen on the first Part, Francis Godolphin, Esq. on the second Part, and Edward Lord Clinton, High Admiral of England on the Third Part.

THE Queen doth demise and to farm let, unto the said Francis Godolphin, Esq. his executors and assigns, all those her highnesses isles, islands, territories, and rocks, commonly called the isles of Silley, otherwise Sulley; and also known by the names of St. Mary isle, Agnes isle, Agnet isle, Sampson isle, the great Sampson isle, the little Rat island, Brehar isle, Treskowe isle, Arwothel isle, St. Helen's isle, Lyde's isle, St. Martin's isle, Guynhill isle, Gwynhellever isle, Arthures island, Round island, Silley, alias Sulley island, together with all the sounds called Crawes sound, St. Mary's sound, and the Broad sound, and all harbours for ships, called new Grynsey, old Grynsey, and all other isles, islands, rocks, and sounds within the circuit or precinct of the said isles; and all lands, tenements, meadows, pastures, grounds, feedings, fishings, fishing-places, mines of tin, lead, and coals; and moiety or half part of all ship-wrecks, which shall happen within the said isles, to be divided or shared with the lord high admiral. And also grants to the said Francis Godolphin, Esq. power and jurisdiction to hear, and finally determine all complaints, suits, matters, actions, controversies, contentions, and demands whatsoever, which shall happen to be depending between party and party within any of the said isles. To hold unto the said Francis Godolphin, Esq. unto the end and term of 38 years; he yielding and paying the yearly rent of ten pounds into the hands of the receiver for the dutchy of Cornwall, covenanting that the said Francis Godolphin, Esq. shall serve the said queen in defence of the aforesaid islands.

The aforesaid honourable Francis Godolphin, Esq. governor and proprietor of Scilly, received the honour of knighthood *anno* 1580. And in 35 Eliz. he was lord lieutenant of the county of Cornwall, and also colonel of a regiment of 12 companies, armed with 470 pikes, 490 muskets, and 240 calivers.

About which time he made great improvements in Scilly, by her Majesty's order, as Mr. Carew observes, who places the castle of Scilly among other forts of the county of Cornwall. His account is, that in 35 Eliz. Sir Francis Godolphin, in building the castle of St. Mary's island, "reduced the place to a more defensible plight, and by his invention and purse bettered his plot and allowance, and therein so tempered strength with delight, and both with use, as it serveth for a sure hold and commodious dwelling." The next grant of Scilly was to Sir William Godolphin.

Indenture,

Indenture, dated 10 August, in the second year of King James the First, between the said King on the first Part, Sir William Godolphin, Knt. on the second Part, and Charles Earl of Nottingham, Lord High Admiral of England on the third Part.

THE King doth demise, and to farm let, unto the said Sir William Godolphin, Knt. his executors, and assigns, all those isles, islands, territories, &c. as before described in the lease of Queen Eliz. with the same covenants of tin, lead, coal-mines, property of land and sea; and moiety or half part of all shipwrecks to be divided between the said Sir William Godolphin, Knt. and the lord high admiral. And the same power or jurisdiction of hearing and determining all plaints, suits, actions, controversies, &c. whatsoever, between party and party; also covenanting for the defence of the said islands. These to hold unto the said Sir William Godolphin, Knt. for the end and term of 50 years, he yielding and paying for the same the yearly rent of 20l. into the hands of the receiver for the dutchy of Cornwall; covenanting that he, the said Sir William, may have from the said king, his heirs and successors, one last of gunpowder, every year, to defend the said islands. And that he the said Sir William Godolphin, Knt. shall not, by his last will and testament, give or bequeath any of the said isles unto any of his daughters. The next grant was to Francis Godolphin, Esq.

KING Charles the first, by his letters patent, dated June 20, in the 12th year of his reign, grants to Francis Godolphin, Esq. his executors and assigns, all the islands, territories, &c. as before described, in the leases of Queen Eliz. and King James, with the same covenants of tin, lead, and coal-mines, property by sea and land, and moiety or half part of all ship-wrecks. And the same power or jurisdiction, for hearing and determining all plaints, suits, or actions, controversies, &c. whatsoever between party and party; and covenanting for the defence of the islands. These to hold unto the said Francis Godolphin, Esq. from the end, expiration, or surrender of the lease of 50 years, granted by King James, for a further term of 50 years; he the said Francis Godolphin, Esq. yielding and paying for the same the yearly rent of 40l. into the hands of the receiver for the dutchy of Cornwall. And that one half of ship-wreck goes to the king, his heirs and successors, instead of the lord high admiral, so long as that office shall continue in his Majesty's possession, and undisposed of to any person or persons; covenanting for a last of gunpowder, in defence of the said islands, as in the former leases.

In the year 1645, when General Fairfax had routed, and almost defeated the King's forces in Cornwall, under the command of Arthur Lord Hopton; the Prince of Wales, then at Pendinnis castle, retreated for further safety to these islands, described by Lord Clarendon, as being part of Cornwall. (vid. vol. v. Hist. Rebel.)

His royal highness landed there on Wednesday the 4th day of March, with the Lord Colepepper, and other his attendants. Two days after which, the Lord Colepepper was dispatched to France with representations to the queen, of his highness being at Scilly, and of the wants and incommodities of the place; desiring supplies to be sent both in men and money.

In the mean time, Fairfax growing every where victorious in the west, and the King's army dissolving thereupon, the lords Hopton and Capel soon joined his Highness at Scilly; at which time the enemies' whole army had entered Cornwall.

His Highness, after a short stay of about six weeks, being thought no longer safe, under the apprehensions of the parliament fleet appearing before the place, which was then in no condition to resist an attack made upon it, embarked for the island of Guernsey, on April 17, while the enemies ships were, as yet, scattered; and, with a prosperous wind, was there safely landed.

After this, when Cornwall was entirely reduced, and King Charles the First cruelly put to death, Sir John Granville, governor of the islands of Scilly, took all possible care in the defence of them for King Charles the second, and of what consequence they were thought to be by the parliament, and the governing men of those times, is observed by Whitlock in his memorials, who gives the following account, how much their privateers annoyed the traffic of the kingdom.

"Letters * 26 June, 1640, mention that a frigate of Sir John Granville, governor of Scilly, with two brass guns, 24 muskets, and 24 oars, coming near Swansey, the governor of Cardiff sent out boats, pursued the frigate from creek to creek, and at length took her, and the men, except the captain and some few who got a-shore†.

"Letters (6 March 1650) of several ships taken by pyrates of Scilly and Jersey. Letters of 15 March of the want of frigates on the western coast to keep in the Jersey and Scilly pyrates, and of their taking several merchant ships, and none of the parliament frigates to help them. Letters of 19 March of the pyracies committed by those of Jersey and Scilly."

These captures causing an interruption of trade, the parliament fitted out a fleet with land forces, under the command of General Blake and Sir George Ayscue, to reduce them to obedience.

"Letters 8 May, 1651, ‡ that General Blake and Sir George Ayscue, with the fleet at Scilly, intended to fall upon St. Mary's island; that the governor thereof sent to them for a treaty, which was agreed to, but took no effect. And thereupon the great guns played upon St. Mary's.

"Letters (12 May) from Sir George Ayscue of the action at Scilly; that Captain Morris behaved himself most gallantly in the storming of the island: that the Scilly islands are the key that open a passage to several nations. Letters (16 May) that after the parliament fleet had taken the two islands of Tresco and Briers they had a treaty with Sir John Granville by commissioners, which took no effect. Letters (30 May) that the foot of Scilly entered at St. Mary's island, and that those in the castle were in great want of water. Letters § (12 June) that Sir George Ayscue was come into Plymouth with Sir John Granville and other prisoners taken off the isle of St. Mary's, and other of the Scilly islands; they being all surrendered to the parliament upon articles.

"Letters || 14 June, confirming the reduction of St. Mary's island to the parliament, with 800 soldiers, some of whom were shipped for Ireland, others for Scotland, others for France, and some for England with Sir John Granville.

"That there were in it likewise commissioned officers enough to head an army. That Colonel Axtel, Colonel Sadler, and Colonel Le Hunt, prisoners there, were released. That these islands will be a shelter to merchants, which before were their ruin, and are a check to the trade of many nations."

By the great number of officers there, it appears that the loyalists chose those islands as a place of refuge; and were entertained by Sir John Granville, who afterwards went

* Whitlock's Memorials, p. 396.

† Whitlock's Memorials, p. 465.

‡ Ibid. Cod. p. 464.

§ P. 467.

|| P. Ibid.

into France to King Charles the second; and (as the preamble of the patent, creating him Earl of Bath sets forth) attended him in his greatest distresses, throughout all his disconsolate travels, in France, Flanders, Holland, and the isle of Jersey.

This excellent person, notwithstanding all the dangers he lay under from the usurping powers, frequently hazarded his life in coming to England, and was once employed for managing the King's affairs during the usurpation of Oliver Cromwell.

Before Scilly was reduced to the parliament of England, it is said their privateers had carried in some trading Dutch vessels, of which the states having notice, they ordered Van Trump, their Admiral, with 12 men of war, to fall upon those islands for satisfaction as was pretended: but at this time the said admiral had private instructions to treat with Sir John Granville underhand for the delivering them up; but he had too much the interest of his country at heart to listen to their proposals. The Dutch excused this unsuccessful attempt on Sir John Granville and the loyalists, with whom they were plotting for the delivery of all the English islands in the south channel, by a pretence of putting King Charles II. into the possession of his right.

Anno 1642, soon after the removal of Governor Godolphin from Scilly, when disputes between the King and parliament of England run very high, the inhabitants of these islands, sensible of the effects of such animosities, published the following petition as a burlesque on the prevailing humours of those times:

A PETITION

FROM THE ISLAND OF SILLEY BEING IN THE WEST PART OF ENGLAND:

Wherein some of their grievances and oppressions are laid open, and manifested; together with their sincere affection to the prosperity, and good of the kingdom of England sent by the last post from the aforesaid island of Silley in a letter to some of their countrymen in London, desiring to have it published, with a general consent of the island of Silley. Wherein is expressed the state of the tyme, and the diurnal occurrences of this present age*.

THAT whereas we the inhabitants of Silley being neither wise men's eldest sons, nor possessed of any great means whereby our wits and good willes should be held in contempt, have not hitherto dared, for fear of derision, to send forth handfulls of our affections in black and white, or to make our tedious protestations and petitions, as the leather breeches in the severall counties of England have done, though our intention towards the king and parliament are as clear as glasse, and more transparent than the obscure malignity of those countrey animals, and quarrelling cavaliers, men of great stomachs, better feeders than fighters: we therefore knowing that foolish modesty can never make us thrive in worldly favour, have joined all the strength of our wits together, and little enough to draw forth and describe the face and picture of our sorrows and grievances, and also in ample manner lay down the substance of our desires, shewing first that we being poor innocent creatures of the island of Silley, that have no golden fleeces on our backs, whereby to tempt any injuries, nor have any lawyers among us to pole our estates, nor any swaggering friends, and acquaintance that will be ready to borrow money of us, and never pay us again, nor any detractors or backbiters to blast our reputation, are therefore like a people much troubled in minde that wee should live unworthy of wrongs and injuries, which are so common and frequent in England, that neither the king nor subjects can escape the sting of malicious tongues, whereas we surfet with content, never fearing anything, no not so much as a serjeant as many gentlemen doe in England. And now of late having understood by fisher-boat that came from Eng-

* London, printed for Thomas Banks, August 12, 1642.

land of certaine discords arising between the king and parliament upon what ground and small reasons we cannot apprehend, so that the whole land is like to be divided into factions for quicking quarrels in the church windowes, we smelling your danger as farre off, and out of a deare affection to ourselves, esteeming our lives to be precious in our estimation, doe therefore earnestly and hartily desire that we may dissemble ourselves together in a posture of warre, and that we may have bills, bowes, arrows, and speares, and all kind of murdering engines sent unto us, whereby we may according to our necessity arme our corporall bodyes, and if our enemies should appeare in field (which we hartily wish they may never doe) we may kill them seven miles before they come neere us, and moreover we desire that we may have some redd terrible ill looking vizards sent to us, together with a ship full of the strongest garlike, so that having put on those fearful vizards we may affright our enemies with our very lookes, and blow them away with our strong sented breaths. As for bishops we care not greatly whether there be any in England, or not, for our constitution is not so hot, that we can endure none; nor our affections so cold that we cannot permit any, onley we humbly desire that all our bishops may be spiritual bakers, that they may make their bread of doctrine as gentle as ginger-bread, so that old women may mumble it up as in old time they did their Pater Nosters. And we beseech these ghostly fathers, that they would be sure to fleece their diocesses, and put in some poor scholler of Silley, or some filley scholler to be their curate in some country village, and moreover that they would never straine their voyces to preach too much, and that never doing any good while they live, they may after their decease build a colledge in one of the two universities.

And moreover it is our humble desire that we may be better acquainted with the new sects of Roundheads, being so like to us the inhabitants of Silley, for all their doctrines, opinions, and tenets which they maintain doe all smell strong of the isle of Silley, so that as the papists doe fetch the derivation of their church from Rome, surely the Brownists and these Roundheads had their original from one that was born in Silley, for is not their madde kind of preaching in tubs a filly faction, are not their teaching against the back of a chaire, and ignorant instructing at a tables end all filly inventions, besides their short circumcised hayres make them all look like syllyes. It is our humble petition therefore that they may all domineere in the city, and pull down ministers out of the pulpit, and never troubled by the king or parliament, because it doth appear by their mad actions, factions, and disturbances of the commonwealth that they are a-kin to the brethren of Silley, as well as of Scotland, and if they should tacke means, which we hope they will scorn to doe, the filley Roundheads being willing to help one another, I would have such as be afflicted there to remove themselves, and not to fly over into new England, but unto the isle of Silley, that there they might exercise their filly religious feates free from the censure of the world, and the trouble of the commonwealth; who doth wish them all hanged on sign posts, we desire them therefore in this our petition to packe up their tooles being tradesmen, and take with them their wives and children, and a bible or two, and so the conduct of their revealing spirit, passe over to inhabite in the island of Silley.

Humbly likewise beseeching that the king and parliament would not be dogged one towards another, but concurre in affection and abominable love one to another, for discord doth bring forth nothing but murdering and killing in kindnesse, and if our skin be flisht and cut who can mend it, or who can borrow another of his neighbour? besides who would desire to have his eyes pushed out of his head with a musket bullet, or a piece of his skull seared off with a cannon bullet? therefore we desire waking, dreaming, and thinking, that there may be store of pease as there hath been alwaies in the
markets,

markets, and that we may live in soft ease, and content, without trouble, but not a word of fighting, for we the inhabitants of Silley are men of weake stomachs that doe hate gunnes and gunpowder, and therefore we are willing to be undone upon any condition, rather than to have our dearly beloved bodies suffer the hardnesse of warres. And therefore we humbly beseech that howsoever discontents may arise, and some body may be offended, we name no body, yet in a holy and wholesome pitties of our bodies, we desire that the noyse of warres may be silenced, and peace generally throughout the land embraced, and no noyse heard in our Jerusalem, but kitching drums, that is chopping of pothearbs on Sunday mornings, that so we may not be put into such feares and terrors to the spoiling of the witts of the inhabitants of Silley, especially women of Silly, or filly women, who neere use to pray or blesse themselves, but at the sudden report of warres.

As for militia, it is a word we understand not, unless it be displayed in the proper colours of displeasing and offending in contending about this word, fye upon such words, militia according to the interpretation and desire of the islanders of Silley, is to set ourselves in a posture of eating like Hungarians, drinking like Flemmings, and talking of Hull, Sir John Hotham, Yorke, and the prentices, resolution, which we commend highly, and doe think that there are some of the island of Silley that have as invincible stomachs, whose knives nor swords could not be put up at the affront of a barly pudding, nay it is known that we men of Silley, for want of knives have drawne our swordes to open oysters, what dare we do then to make honour wait upon us? as she hath done sometymes upon the men of Silley or Silley men, but in these times though we desire somewhat we desire no honour, we love our heads better then to have them fall off, for too much ripeness of witt and dignity, therefore we humbly beseech that our petition may be accounted as it is the unseasonable and unreasonable requests of the subjects of Silley.

Now that you may never know the conclusion of what we would obtain we will commit the rest to the close custody of silence, and not write any more, for feare it will be too much laught at, but 'tis no matter, 'tis usual in these times for ignorance to deride wisdom, coblers and Brownists to jeare doctors, roundheads to be wiser than square caps, and conceited women to be preachers, and fooles to be farmers sonnes in despite of aldermens heyres. We therefore the inhabitants of Silley, last of all desire, that none presume to reade this petition, unlesse he believe that the islanders of Silley will stand stiffe to all declarations, protestations, and reformations, as any of the roundheads or cavaliers, who are thought wiser than we the inhabitants of Silley.

By Letters Patent, under the Great Seal of England, bearing Date the 25th Day of July, in the Tenth Year of King William III. 1698, made between the King on the one Part, and Sidney Lord Godolphin of the other Part.

HIS said Majesty for himself, his heirs and successors, did grant and to farm let unto the said Sidney Lord Godolphin, his executors, administrators, and assigns, all those his Majesty's islands, territories, and rocks commonly called the isles of Scilley, otherwise Sulley, and known by the names of St. Mary's isle, Agnes isle, Agnet isle, Sampson isle, the great Sampson isle, the little Rat island, Breher isle, Gwynhill isle, Guynhellever isle, Arthures island, Round island, Silly, alias Sully island, or by what name or names soever; together with all and singular the sounds, called or known by the name of Craw sound, St. Mary's sound, and the Broad sound. And also, all and singular the harbours for shipping called New Grinsey and Old Grinsey, and all other

islands, rocks, and sands whatsoever, &c. within the circuit or præinct of the said isles. And all lands, tenements, meadows, pastures, grounds, feedings, fishings, fishing places, mines of tin, lead, and coals, and all profits of the same; and full power to dig, work, and mine in the premises. And also all the marshes, void grounds, woods, underwoods, rents, reversions, services; and also all other profits, rights, commodities, advantages, and emoluments within the said isles. And moiety or half part of all shipwreck, to be divided between the said Sidney Lord Godolphin, or his assigns, and the king, his heirs and successors, for such time as the office of lord high admiral shall be conferred on any person or persons, then the said shipwreck to be divided between the lord high admiral for the time being, and the said Sidney Lord Godolphin, his executor and assigns. And the said king did also grant all his liberties, franchises, authorities, and jurisdictions, as have been heretofore used within the said islands. And full power and jurisdiction to hear, examine, and finally determine, all complaints, suits, matters, actions, controversies, contentions, and demands whatsoever, moved or depending between party and party; now or at any time hereafter inhabiting the said isles. (All heresies, treasons, matters touching life, or member of man, or title of land; and also all controversies and causes touching ships, and other things and offences happening upon the sea hereafter, belonging to the high court of admiralty for the time being, and therein to be tried, always excepted,) to hold unto the said Sidney Lord Godolphin, his executors and assigns, unto the end and term of 89 years from the end and expiration of a term of 50 years granted to Francis Godolphin, Esq. by his late Majesty King Charles the first; yielding and paying to his Majesty, his heirs, and successors, the yearly rent of 40l. at the feast of St. Michael, into the hands of the receiver for the Duchy of Cornwall for the time being. And if rent be unpaid two months after due, the grant to be void at the king's pleasure. And the said king was pleased and contented that his lordship, his executors, and assigns, shall and may receive yearly, at the king's price, one last of gunpowder, paying ready money for the same. And also that it shall and may be lawful to and for the said Sidney Lord Godolphin, his executors, and assigns, to take up and press his and their own tenants, tinnors, and servants, to serve the king's most excellent majesty, his heirs and successors, under the said Sidney Lord Godolphin, his executors, administrators, and assigns, within the said islands, territories, and rocks; and every or any of them, in the time of war, for the better keeping and defending the said isles, and every of them, against the enemy, during all the said term. And it was also covenanted that the said Sidney Lord Godolphin should not alienate or dispose of this lease, or estate, for the term granted, without the special licence, and consent of his said majesty, his heirs and successors. Nor by his last will and testament give and bequeath the same unto any of his daughters, unless she be married, and her husband meet to defend the said islands. Nor to any other children within age; but only to such as shall be of years fit for their defence. And the said king ratifies and confirms all clauses, articles, covenants, &c. according to the true intent and meaning thereof, unto the said Sidney Lord Godolphin, his executors, and assigns, during the said term, notwithstanding any mis-recital or non-recital of the articles contained in the former leases or grants of Queen Elizabeth, King James the first, and King Charles the first (as at large in the chapel of rolls) to the respective proprietors of the said islands. Of which it is the king's pleasure that all and singular the rights and privileges should be continued unto the said Sidney Lord Godolphin.

By the aforesaid grants it appears that these islands are under an admiralty-jurisdiction, and that the lord proprietor, for the time being, is empowered to erect a court of civil judicature for hearing and determining all complaints, suits, trespasses, controversies, tumults,

mults, &c. And by virtue of his power given, can delegate his authority, by assigning a magistrate to preside over that court, reserving his judgment in appeals.

And the proprietor* having all profits, and full power assigned to himself, claims all tythe of Scilly by land, and of fish taken at sea, and landed upon those premises, acknowledgment of all ships coming to an anchor, commonly called harbour-dues, share of goods taken out of those seas by searching; and of others washed, or driven a-shore, according to the custom of the islands for time immemorial.

A List of the late Governors of Scilly, bearing Commissions.

	<i>Governed, Anno.</i>
Honourable Sir Francis Godolphin,	1593
Honourable Sir William Godolphin,	
Honourable Francis Godolphin, Esq.;	1640
Honourable Sir John Granville (afterwards Earl of Bath)	1651
Honourable Sidney Godolphin, Esq.	1702
Major Bennett governed a short time	
Right Honourable Francis Earl of Godolphin,	1733

The governors having the military power were not always proprietors holding the civil jurisdiction, as has before been observed; for Major Bennet was governor of Scilly, while the present Earl of Godolphin was only proprietor: his lordship thinking this an infringement on his authority, had a commission as governor, bearing date July 7, 1733, and has been governor and proprietor of the islands ever since. Moreover it appearing, by deeds and patents concerning Cornwall, that Scilly and Launceston castle having sometimes the same governor, and that a coroner and his jury being appointed to enquire into manslaughters, felonies, &c. in Scilly, the military and civil power, at those times, were vested in different authorities.

Felonies and matters criminal committed in Scilly are ordered to be tried at Launceston in Cornwall; the parties so offending are to be sent over to that county prison, till the time of trial; though I never remember such crimes committed there to require it: and it is in this respect chiefly that the civil power of Scilly partakes with that of Cornwall, or the laws of England.

The spiritual jurisdiction here has generally been the same with that of Cornwall and Devonshire, held by their bishops; under whom, by grants from the crown, the abbats of Tavistock presiding in Scilly, had their power confirmed.

The separation of these islands from their neighbouring county by a very rough sea, and no passage-vessel for a communication, are assigned the causes of the entire neglect of the spiritual authority there. And the mildness of the temporal power of this go-

* Proprietor, in law, is strictly one who possesses any thing to the utmost degree. The term was formerly applied in a particular manner to him who had the fruits of a benefice to himself and his successors, as in antient times abbats and priors had.

† The lower parts of these islands are frequently subject to inundation by these tempestuous seas, for want of banks kept up in defence thereof; and of late the inhabitants suffered more by inundation, in the beginning of the year 1748, than they did in the year 1744, before described. Which damages might be prevented by removing the Hugh Town (founded on a sand, near the sea shore) into the garrison; at hand; or else to the high land, next the country, about two furlongs further off. The further advantages for removing the Hugh-Town, as described, are the safety of the people's lives, reduction of expences in repairs of houses, room for encrease of building, trade, &c.

vernment, so long held by the noble family of Godolphins, results from their known generous disposition.

To consider the many shining examples and characters in this noble family, for integrity, loyalty, skill in government, mildness in justice, courage in war, hospitality, &c. faithfully described by that excellent antiquarian, Arthur Collins, Esq. in his peerage of England, must raise an admiration of their exalted virtues, and an emulation to copy them. Which writer has also given an exact genealogical account of the descent of the family, from about the time of the Norman conquest to the present right honourable Francis Earl of Godolphin, so eminently distinguished for his many acts of generosity, among his other amiable qualities. But for the particulars of the great services of his lordship's noble ancestors, I shall refer the reader to the peerage aforesaid; and beg leave to express my own sentiments of his lordship's distinguished merits in the following lines:

To the Right Honourable Francis Earl of Godolphin, Governor and Proprietor of the Islands of Scilly.

IF a long line of patriots great and good,
And honour, streaming through untainted blood,
Can dignify a man, and raise a name,
To stand recorded in the list of fame;
If worth, transmitted to successive heirs,
Descends, unblemish'd, thro' a thousand years;
If Virtue makes nobility a gem,
And adds a lustre to the antient stem;
If merit only can ennoble birth,
And peerage shines distinguished by worth:
Then you, my lord, the place of honour hold,
Not meanly bought, nor ever basely sold.
The coronet, that wreaths your noble brow,
To noble deeds, in virtue's cause, you owe.
The gen'rous spirit your forefathers warm'd,
And their brave souls with dauntless courage arm'd,
By life or death to vindicate their prince,
And firmly stand in liberty's defence,
With equal ardour in your bosom glows,
Exalts your thoughts, and all the patriot shews.
From active youth to venerable age,
Your king and country still your zeal engage.
Ne'er did your tongue begild a rotten cause,
Nor gave a sanction to oppressive laws.
The subject's rights you ever made your own,
And bravely fenc'd as you have fenc'd the throne.
Your upright soul, no bias ever knew,
But when distressed merit was in view.
The ruling passion of your honest heart,
Is, where to find, and how reward desert.
O blest Scillonians! favourites of Heav'n!
To whom so wise a governor is given,
You never felt the iron hand of pow'r;
Oppression never landed on your shore;
The pride of office never frown'd on you;
Nor harpy lawyers do your islands know;
No tipstaffs, bailiffs, petty-foggers, dare
Presume to stretch their griping talons there,
Since a Godolphin, with pacific sway,
Has rul'd your isles, as Phœbus rules the day.

Thro' every part he sends his genial heat,
 And spreads his blessings o'er your rocky seat,
 Tho' far divided from your mother isle,
 On you fair freedom looks a friendly smile,
 On you bestows whatever Britons boast,
 And pours her gifts on your inclement coast.
 But where's the hope that future blessing fills?
 Whose is the hand that covers you from ills?
 Grateful confess on whom you shall depend,
 And own Godolphin is your noble friend.

R. H.

Scilly joined with Cornwall.

MR. CAMDEN mentions a tradition of a tract of land called Ligness, once stretching itself farther out as a promontory to the west. That about the middle-way between land's end and Scilly there are rocks, called, in Cornish, Lethas, by the English, Seven-Stones. That the Cornish call that place within the stones. Tregva, i. e. a dwelling where it has been reported that windows, &c. have been taken up by hooks (for this is the best place for fishing.) And that from the land's End to Scilly the water is nearly of an equal depth, of about 40 or 60 fathom.

Mr. Carew is of opinion, that Scilly was once part of the land of Cornwall; and by other authorities, found in a very old MS. (shewing it not improbable) this isle of Albion, being once part of the continent of France, was separated in the same manner: of which also see the extract of Phil. Transact. No. 352. p. 589. Britain formerly a Peninsula, by Dr. Musgrave. He shews the probability of an Isthmus, and then of its wearing away in a long space of time by the flux and re-flux of the tides after an irruption by the violent pressure of water driven by the winds out of the Atlantic ocean. The west wind blowing hard for half a year against Britain and France, as observed by Julius Cæsar. The depth in the streights of Dover being not above 16 fathom, might be easily wore down in such a series of years. He observes that the ridge of earth in the streights shews the land there was once much higher, but reduced as aforesaid; especially if it is considered that the more the bottom of the sea is washed away, the more level it becomes. That the steep, white, flinty and chalky cliffs on the opposite shores of the Streights, between Dover and Calais, exactly answering to each other for above six miles, make it appear that they were separated as before mentioned, by the washing away of the intermediate earth. That the present state of Rumney marsh agrees with the supposition; for whilst the Isthmus remained, it diverted the course of the tides that way, and caused the overflowing of the same, by being a plain low bottom. That this marsh had once a communication with the sea appears from its strong bulwark; and also from the teeth and bones of a hippopotamus, or some other sea animal, dug up at Chatham (anno 1668) 17 feet deep (vid. Phil. Transactions, No. 272, 275) but an anchor dug up thereabouts shews it more evidently.

That after the Isthmus was broke through, and all obstacles removed, the sea retired from Rumney into its channel; whereby that which was formerly an æstuary, is now a fertile plain 20 miles long, and eight broad, yielding good pasture for cattle. That Isthmus being admitted, it is easy to conceive how wolves and other noxious animals came into Britain. But on the contrary supposition, it will be absurd to imagine that they were transported hither in vessels for the preservation of the species. Nor is the silence of the Greeks and Latins, about the breaking through of this Isthmus, any objection, since the most antient history is but from that of Herodotus about 3500 years back, and from Noah's flood 1800; and in such a vast space of time, as from the beginning,

ginning, what conjunction of causes might happen to produce such an effect? by some Virgil is thought to imply as much in the passage of—"Penitus toto divisos orbe Britannos." And the learned British antiquary, Jo. Twinn de rebus Albonicis, p. 22, is of the same opinion, concerning the word *divisos*, and that Virgil meant it when he used the expression. Therefore Dr. Musgrave concludes from the whole, that Britain was not originally an island, but became so from a Peninsula by concurrence of some of the aforesaid causes breaking a passage through the said Isthmus. Nor, says Mr. Childrey*, can I think but that the Scilly islands were once parts of the main land of England. And the like I conceive of Heyfant in France, an isle lying before the promontory of Britain, severed by degrees each from the other. And to strengthen this evidence, it may be observed that the islands of Scilly having tin in common with the county of Cornwall, which no other island does produce, is a further probability of their being once joined to Cornwall, and therefore severed from thence either by a gradual incroachment of the sea, or some violent irruption.

The Cornish land from Plymouth discovers itself to be devoured more and more to the westward, according to the aforesaid tradition of the tract of Lioness, being encroached upon above half the present distance from the Land's end to Scilly, whence it is probable that the low Isthmus, once joining Scilly and Lioness, was first encroached upon in the same manner. The projecting land being exposed to the concurrence of the tides from the Irish, the Bristol, and British channels, by whose violence and impetuosity, encreased by the winds, the loose earth of the Gulf-rock might be worn away, leaving the resistable substance behind standing as it is, in the middle way, betwixt Scilly and Cornwall. Or by whatever violent causes or irruption of the sea over the land was once made, a new tendency of that fluid element was thereby acquired and continued.

These notions are confirmed by instances of the incroachments and retreats of the sea, about several parts of the English coast, in later days; particularly the breach made by the sea at Dagenham, whereby great part of the Essex land was overflowed, and must have been wore into a sea, if the timely wisdom and vigilance of a British parliament, by securing the breach, had not prevented it.

* J. Childrey, of Cornish rarities, printed anno 1662.

A TOUR THROUGH THE ISLE OF MAN: TO WHICH IS SUBJOINED A REVIEW OF THE MANKS HISTORY. BY DAVID ROBERTSON, ESQ.

PREFACE.

THIS delightful island having been hitherto little visited, either by the man of letters, or the lover of picturesque beauty, an attempt to describe its truly romantic scenery, to delineate the customs and manners of its inhabitants, and from various sources to deduce its history, may not prove unacceptable to the public. I do not, however, flatter myself with obtaining the approbation of every reader. Some of the natives may be offended with the sketch I have given of their general character: the political parties, who have for some years agitated the country, may affect to disregard a work, that, instead of flattering the prejudices of either, exposes the ambitious and interested views of both: while the idolaters of despotism may resent my ardent attachment to principles, which, I hope, will soon be as universal, as they are sacred and immutable.

This volume I do not presume to say is exempt from errors: my heart however acquits me of any intended misrepresentation. To point out with candour what inadvertencies may occur, will merit my gratitude; for the satisfaction afforded by the corrections of the candid critic, can only be surpassed by the pleasure resulting from the approbation of the generous: but the animadversions of the illiberal, as they cannot possibly injure my tranquillity of mind, I shall allow to pass silently into oblivion.

London, October 14th, 1793.

A TOUR THROUGH THE ISLE OF MAN.

CHAP. I.—*View of the Island from Sea.—A Smuggler.—Douglas Bay.—The Salmon Fishery.*

DESIROUS of revisiting a country endeared to me by the remembrance of past pleasures, I devoted the summer of 1791 to a tour through this island. The prospect of meeting once more with the few friends and companions which time had left me on the island, seemed to invite me thither; and from tracing the progress of refinement in manners, the advances of agriculture, the new channels of trade and commerce, and the benign influence of the British government, I promised myself no inconsiderable degree of mental pleasure.

With this flattering prospect I sailed from Whitehaven in one of his Majesty's cutters; and, as the day was delightfully serene, in a few hours observed the mountains of Mona breaking from the ambient clouds. On a nearer approach they afforded us a sublime and picturesque view: mountain piled upon mountain, extending in a lofty range for many miles; in the centre of which, Snaffield, with awful grandeur, lifted his brow to Heaven, and seemed proudly to claim the pre-eminence.

The bold and rugged coast next demanded our attention; as even at a league's distance it seemed to threaten us with approaching ruin. In some places it sunk into deep
VOL. II. 5 H and

and gloomy caverns; and in others was overhung with frowning precipices: while the solitary screeches of the sea mews united with the wildness of the scenery, to fill the mind with an awful melancholy.

In a little I discovered under the shelter of Maughold's Head *, a small vessel lying at anchor. It proved a smuggling boat, laden with wine, rum, and tobacco; and had failed from Laxey on the preceding night: but, unable to reach the English shore before morning, had retired under the high land, in expectation that the ensuing night would prove more favourable. But how delusive are the hopes of mortals! Being soon discovered by the cutter, the boat was without any opposition seized, and the crew transported aboard our vessel. The insulting exultations of the sailors, and the gloomy silence of the smugglers formed an affecting contrast. The owner of the property had in his air somewhat superior to the rest. His countenance strongly expressed shame and fullen anguish. As he retired to a corner of the vessel, wringing his hands, I heard him exclaim: "Now am I ruined indeed! How shall I return to my wife and family?" He had once seen better days. By his father he inherited a small estate in Cumberland; but, one misfortune rapidly succeeding another, it was first deeply mortgaged, and then sold. To retrieve his misfortunes he engaged in this illicit trade; and had imprudently risked, in this first enterprize, the fragments of his fortune: thereby involving a young and numerous family in unexpected ruin. I frequently endeavoured to mitigate his sorrows; they would not however admit of consolation. His distress I represented to the commander of the cutter; but, though he pitied his calamity, no intercession could then avail.

This incident I have preserved, as it presents an awful warning to those, who, from infatuation or habit, prefer this hazardous and illicit manner of acquiring wealth, to the slow, but more certain, gains of honest industry.

Before sunset the breeze which had hitherto proved favourable died away, and for some time we were becalmed in the Bay of Douglas; which, in the form of a crescent, extends for three miles from Clay-Head to Douglas-Promontory. The evening grew more and more serene: the setting sun threw a beautiful veil of light over the mountains; and the evening-sky gave a ruddy tinge to the scarcely-heaving ocean. A few straggling fisher-boats were moving homewards. The verdure of the fields, the wood-circled hamlets, the flocks scattered over the mountains, and the smoke curling from the town of Douglas, improved the landscape, and afforded a pleasing contrast to the gloomy scenes we had lately passed.

Douglas-Bay is spacious, and the neighbouring high lands render it an asylum from the tempests of the north, west, and south; but to the storms of the east it is greatly exposed. Both points present a dangerous and rocky shore. A variety of fish is here caught in great abundance. The cod is a high luxury: and the salmon, though small, equals in delicacy and flavour the choicest in England; and during the months of July, August, and September, is very plentiful.

This fishery has been claimed by the Duke of Athol as one of his manerial rights. Since the sale of the island in 1765, it has been deemed the property of the crown; and by the Lords of the Treasury is at present let at a sum greatly inadequate to its value. When the lease expires, whether government will at an advanced sum renew it, or restore the fishery to the Duke of Athol, will depend on the report of the five commissioners, lately appointed by the crown, to investigate the equity of his Grace's demands.

* A huge promontory.

CHAP. II.—*Arrival at Douglas—Ruinous State of the Harbour—An awful Calamity—Reflections.*

AFTER I had indulged myself for some time in viewing the beautiful and romantic scenery of Douglas-bay, a gentle breeze sprung up, and we arrived at the town about nine in the evening.

The entrance of the harbour is narrow and dangerous, being fenced on each side by a range of precipices. In the centre of these a light-house, at once useful and ornamental, formerly stood. This, with a great part of the key, was destroyed by a severe storm in 1786; and in this ruinous state, highly injurious to the public, and fatal to many individuals, it has remained ever since. To enumerate the various shipwrecks this neglect has occasioned, would be unnecessary: but the awful calamity, which happened in September 1787, is too interesting to be passed over in silence. I was then in Douglas, and never before witnessed such a scene of horror.

The preceding day was delightfully serene; the sky pure and unclouded; and the sun shone forth in all his strength and beauty. In the morning, about four hundred fisher-boats appeared in the bay and harbour, deeply laden with herrings, to the amount of 5000l. Gladness smiled in every eye, and the song of mirth gave new energy to labour. The earlier part of the day was passed in unlading the boats, and the remainder devoted to festivity.

The herring-ground was then off Clayhead and Laxey, about three leagues from Douglas. In the evening when the boats again sailed thither, there were no indications of a change in the weather; but at midnight a brisk equinoctial gale arose; and the fishermen, impelled by their usual timidity, fled to the harbour of Douglas for refuge.

On the ruins of the Light-house is fixed a slender post, from which is hung a small lantern. This wretched substitute was thrown down by one of the first boats in its eagerness to gain the harbour. The consequences were dreadful. In a few minutes all was horror and confusion. The darkness of the night; the raging of the sea; the vessels dashing against the rocks; the cries of the fishermen, perishing in the waves; and the shrieks of the women ashore; imparted such a sensation of horror, as none but a spectator can possibly conceive! When the morning came, it presented an awful spectacle: the beach and rocks covered with wrecks; and a group of dead bodies floating in the harbour. In some boats whole families perished. The shore was crowded with women: some in all the frantic agony of grief, alternately weeping over the corpses of father, brother, and husband; and others, sinking in the embrace of those, whom, a moment before, they imagined were buried in the waves. The bustle of trade ceased; its eagerness yielded to the feelings of Nature; an awful gloom sat on every countenance; and every bosom either bled with its own anguish, or sympathized with the sufferings of others.

Dreadful as this calamity was, it did not awaken the parental care of administration; and to this hour the harbour of Douglas remains in the same ruinous state: useless, in a great degree, to the public; fatal to individuals; and a monument of reproach to government*.

* Since the above was written (1791) I have, with much pleasure, observed the attention of government to this subject. A new Key, on a plan at once beneficial and elegant, has lately been projected: which, I hope, will be executed in the ensuing summer.

For several years the revenue of the island has been greater than the expenditure: and a considerable balance is now in the British treasury, which will be annually augmented. The inhabitants of the Isle of Man have therefore a just claim upon government, that with their own revenue their principal harbour should be repaired; and the safety of the public certainly demands, that what nature designed for a general asylum from the tempests in the neighbouring seas, should not longer remain in ruins.

Were it rendered safe and commodious, his Majesty's cutters would frequently resort hither; and trading vessels, instead of vainly combating the fury of the waves, would, till the storm abated, seek shelter here. Trade would soon be revived in Douglas, and prosperity diffused through the island.

A Deceased Friend.—Description of Douglas.—Duke of Athol's residence.—St. George's Chapel.—Episcopal Anecdote.

PURE and uninterrupted enjoyment is seldom the lot of mortals: frequently, as we raise the cup of pleasure to our lips, it is dashed by some unexpected misfortune.—The happiness which I had promised myself from an interview with my friends in Douglas was sensibly diminished, by not observing, among the few who welcomed me ashore, one who was particularly endeared to me. At a little distance I saw his favourite servant approaching. His locks had grown grey in the service of my friend. As he advanced, a tear started into his eye; while his melancholy air sufficiently expressed "that my friend was no more." "My poor master," cried Gerard, shaking his grey locks, "is now at rest. "You were absent, and his eyes were closed by strangers; yet as some consolation know, that in his last moments, he tenderly remembered your friendship. To-morrow I will show you where they buried him." "Yes, Gerard, I will visit his grave: I will bathe the turf that covers him with my tears; and sigh over the consecrated spot."—"Here sleeps in peace the friend of mankind!"

The reader, I flatter myself, will forgive this effusion to the memory of George Parker, Esquire*; when he is informed, that it is a tribute of respect not more due to friendship than to philanthropy: for his life was an ornament, and his death a real loss to society.

Douglas, or according to the antient orthography, Dufglass, is now the principal town in the island. The seat of government is at Castle-town, about ten miles distant: but trade and commerce have rendered Douglas, in wealth and importance, greatly superior.

Near the southern point of the bay the town rises in a triangular form: and in situation is both salubrious and pleasant; commanding a fine view of the neighbouring country, and a most extensive prospect of the sea, with the majestic mountains of Lancashire and Cumberland. The town, considering its extent, is now very populous; although, about a century ago, it was but little more than a group of clay-built cottages. The establishment of the excise in England, uniting with other circumstances, occasioned an influx of wealth into the island. The bold adventurer often rapidly and unexpectedly, by illicit commerce, acquiring affluence, his paternal hut was soon demolished; and on the favoured spot was erected a mansion, more flattering to his luxury and ambition: while his less fortunate neighbour contented himself with a residence, barely adequate to shelter himself and family from the severities of the weather.

This, I presume, will account for the present irregularity of the streets; and the surprise which a stranger feels, on viewing several of the best houses hemmed in by so

* Brother of Admiral Sir Peter Parker, Bart.

many miserable cottages. Several of these have, however, been lately demolished : and a spirit of architectural elegance seems now rising in Douglas ; to which the Manks have many inducements, particularly, from their easy access to some fine quarries of lime, stone, and marble.

A fine river, forming the harbour of Douglas, runs close by the town. The houses, which skirt the banks of the river, have an air of superior elegance ; and at high water would make, with the shipping and adjacent scenery, a pleasing landscape.

The residence of his Grace the Duke of Athol is a stately edifice. It was built, previous to the sale of the island, by a merchant in Douglas, at a considerable expence ; and was soon after that transaction sold to the Duke of Athol for 300l. a memorable instance of the consternation which universally prevailed in the island at that period. But sometimes how short-sighted are mankind ! The re-vestment of the island in the crown of Great Britain, which the inhabitants then believed would ruin the country, soon proved the foundation of all the blessings which they now enjoy.

There is a free-school at Douglas ; but what perhaps will appear astonishing to an Englishman, there is not in the whole island a single edifice devoted to the restoration of the sick, or the relief of the poor : yet, in few places, is private charity more universally liberal.

On some rocks, near the mouth of the harbour, is an ancient fort, formerly intended for its defence, but now used as a temporary prison for criminals. In the centre of the town is a small chapel, dedicated to St. Matthew, which has little claim to the attention of a traveller : but on an eminence, a little west from Douglas, rises St. George's chapel ; a modern edifice, at once spacious and elegant. It was built by subscription, and the funds were lodged with the Right Reverend George Mason, bishop of the diocese ; a man, whose elevation to the episcopal dignity occasioned his future misfortunes.

Being raised to the mitre by the generosity of the Athol-family, he devoted himself to its interests ; and was easily seduced to engage, with some degree of violence, in promoting his Grace's well known attempt to re-establish in the island some portion of that feudal severity, which the wisdom of ages had abolished. The bishop profaned his spiritual authority, by directing it against his political opponents. Bishop's Court, a mansion formerly consecrated by the venerable piety, meekness, and virtue of Bishop Wilson, now emulated the vatican. The thunders of the church shook the island : at length the civil power arose and checked episcopal presumption. By this salutary interference, the bishop's influence being weakened, and his feelings injured, he soon after died, regretting his past temerity.

At his death there was a great deficiency of the funds which had been entrusted to his care. All was anarchy and discontent. The wealthy creditor was injured ; and the industrious labourer almost ruined ! Thus, St. George's chapel, in a great measure, owes its present splendour to the distresses of many individuals : a reflection equally afflicting to the pious and humane.

CHAP. IV.—*View of Society in Douglas.—Propensity of the inferior Classes to Gambling.—The Theatre.—Prejudices of the Natives.—Prodigality of the English.—An affecting Story.*

DOUGLAS, from its trade and commerce*, is the most important town in the island; and its inhabitants, from their intercourse with strangers, the most polished in their manners. But Douglas is not only the chief seat of commerce: it is also the principal residence of the English. Officers on half pay, and gentlemen of small fortunes resort hither; invited by the abundance of the necessaries, and the easy access to the luxuries, of life. Besides these, there are several decayed merchants who have sought shelter here from the persecution of unrelenting creditors†: these live in retirement, and seldom mingle with their more independent countrymen.

To the society of the English Douglas is considerably indebted. They have given life and gaiety to the town; and have contributed to polish the manners of the natives. Convivial societies, assemblies, and card-parties, are now frequent among the higher circles of Douglas. Whist is their favourite game; and they seldom play high. Cards are however introduced on every occasion, and generally accompanied with a plenitude of excellent wines.

Among the inferior classes gaming is far more pernicious. Inebriation is here its constant attendant. The taverns are nightly filled with tradesmen; who, on the chance of a card, a die, or a billiard-ball, will hazard their last farthing. When carried to this excess, gaming is highly criminal. The mind, infatuated with play, becomes blind to every danger; regardless of every duty; and callous to every attachment. The gamester not only rushes on precipitately to his own ruin; he frequently involves the innocent therein: and how greatly must it heighten his distress to reflect, that by this infatuation to play, he may have reduced a virtuous wife and late-flourishing family to misery! Yet, in Douglas, there are some awful monuments of this wretchedness.

Although the liberal arts have few votaries here, a neat theatre has been erected by Captain Tenison, with the benevolent design of contributing to the relief of the poor. But from the penury of dramatic genius in this country, his charitable intentions have been hitherto frustrated: and experience has lately shewn, that here the admirers of the drama are too inconsiderable to support, even for a few weeks, a regular company.

The harmony of society in Douglas is sometimes marred by mutual prejudices. In many of the natives, notwithstanding a show of politeness and hospitality, there is a secret aversion to strangers: and in several of the English an unreasonable contempt of the Manks. The one is deemed too shrewd and selfish; and the other too prodigal. The Mankman has been accused of seeking interest with insatiable avidity, in all his pursuits; and the Englishman, with much justice, has been upbraided with sacrificing every

* As Douglas is the principal port of the island, I intend to give an ample account of its present trade and commerce, after the topographical department of the work.

† The Isle of Man is universally accounted an asylum to those, who have contracted debts during their residence in Britain or Ireland; and presuming on this, some have fled hither and defrauded their creditors: but, at present, there is no law existing in this island, which protects a debtor from the prosecution of his creditor, when the debt is sufficiently proved.

object to present enjoyment: while these prejudices are frequently heightened, by the thoughtless prodigality of the stranger involving him in debt to the native, and thereby subjecting him to the incivilities of an importunate creditor.

Many of the English gentlemen, resident here, are more acquainted with convivial enjoyments than with the pleasures of retirement. They are more *Bon Vivants*, than *Penferosos*. Accordingly, the festive entertainments of the English are numerous and splendid; while each studies to emulate the other by the sumptuousness, or delicacy, of his table, and the variety and profusion of his wines. But this prodigality of the English, frequently exceeding their income, becomes highly culpable. It injures the natives: it affects the credit of other strangers; and often precipitates themselves into the deepest distress. Omitting many recent instances of this, I shall select one which happened some years ago, as it was attended with a circumstance peculiarly affecting.

Captain ——— was a gallant veteran, who had suffered and bled for his country, in the wilds of America. Having there distinguished himself by cool intrepidity, at the close of that unfortunate war, he returned with the troops to England; where he was soon afterwards reduced to half-pay. With this pittance he retired to Douglas. His daughter, a young, beautiful, and accomplished woman, attended him. Her beauty was softened by a pensive melancholy, arising from the perfidy of a wretch, who, under the most sacred vows, had violated her honour. On their arrival they attracted general attention. He was respected for his valour, and she esteemed for her beauty. They were every where received with a splendid hospitality; which the pride of the gallant veteran endeavoured to return and emulate. But this profuse generosity soon exhausted his finances; and ere his next half pay could relieve him, he was arrested and imprisoned. Every frown of fortune the veteran bore with the dignity of virtue. His daughter's presence illuminated the horrors of a prison. With filial piety she mitigated his sorrows; and in her tenderness he forgot for a while the injuries of mankind. This, however, was a deceitful calm; for a few weeks revealed the daughter's shame, and brought the father's grey hairs with anguish to the grave. Being exquisitely alive to the honour of a soldier, his feelings could not brook the dishonour of his daughter. Under such a weight of misery he sunk; yet in his last moments he tenderly embraced, and poured forth blessings over his deluded child. Her anguish was inexpressible. She buried her father: but did not long survive him. Her frame was too delicate to support the anguish of her mind. She languished; she sunk; and at length sought in a better world that peace, which had been denied her in this.

CHAP. V.—*The Nunnery.—Female Piety.—Kirk-Braddan.—Veneration of the Manks for their deceased Friends.—View of the Country round Douglas.—Advances of Agriculture.—Abundance of the Island.*

AT a little distance from Douglas is situated, in a most delightful solitude, the Nunnery. Close by the modern building is a venerable relique of the ancient priory; which, according to the Manks' tradition, was founded in the sixth century, by Saint Bridget, when she came to receive the veil of virginity from St. Maughold. From the pious celebrity of its foundress, the monastery was soon tenanted by female votaries; some of whom were compelled by parental ambition, while others were deluded by visionary joys, to frustrate the benignity of Nature, by sacrificing their youth and beauty at the shrine of superstition. Yet, amid the gloom of this once-hallowed spot, devotion

tion might sometimes heighten the raptures of the enthusiast; or religion, with her heavenly balm, heal the wounds of the unfortunate.

The Priorefs of Douglas was anciently a baronefs of the ifle. Her perfon was facred; her authority dignified; her revenue extenfive; and her privileges important. She held courts in her own name; and from the Lord's Court fhe frequently demanded her vaffals, and tried them by a jury of her own tenants. When fuch was her temporal authority, it may be prefumed of her fpiritual jurifdiction, that

“ Here perchance a tyrant-abbefs reign'd,
Who rul'd the cloifter with an iron-rod *.”

But every veftige of her magnificence and dignity has long fince vanifhed, except the ruins of the convent where fhe once prefided: and even thefe, when a few years have glided away, will alfo difappear. Every ornament of its former grandeur is now levelled with the ground; the mouldering walls are mantled with ivy; clustering wild-flowers crown their fummit; and the whole ruin, being fhaded with aged trees, is at once gloomy and romantic.

The modern building has an air of elegance fuperior to any other in the ifland. The gardens are fpacious and luxuriant; and the furrounding fields, being highly cultivated, and finely interfperfed with woods and waters, prefent an exquisite landscape. In this charming retirement, once confecrated to piety, but now facred to hofpitality, Captain Taubman, the worthy proprietor, enjoys, “ *Otium cum dignitate* ;” not more efteemed by ftrangers, for his politenefs and generofity, than refpected by the natives, for his worth and benevolence.

About a mile from the nunnery, bofomed in a group of aged trees, appears the venerable Kirk-Braddan †. The furrounding fcenery is folemn and romantic. The laft time I vifited this facred folitude was on a fine fummer evening. The ruddy fun was finking behind the weftern hills; and his parting beams fhone faintly on the church-yard. Beneath, the river, in many a maze, murmured along its root-inwoven banks; while, overhead, a few folitary rooks had perched their nefts on the fummit of the trees. The gales of evening fighed among the groves: and at intervals the tones of the death-bell iffued from the church. A folemn calm breathed around: and every object infenfibly difpofed me to a pleafing, yet awful melancholy; reflecting, as I trod above the venerable dead,

“ Time was, like me, they life poffeff,
And time will be when I fhall reft.”

In this hallowed fpot the inhabitants of Douglas, and the rude forefathers of the neighbouring hamlets, fleep in peace. Here the green turf lies lightly on the breasts of fome; and there, the long grafs waves luxuriant over others; while all around

“ Some frail memorial ftill erected nigh,
With uncouth rhymes and fhapelefs fculpture deck'd,
Implores the paffing tribute of a figh.”

The Manks are folicitous to pay every veneration due to deceased friends. When an inhabitant dies, he is attended to the church-yard by a great concourfe of friends

* Jerningham.

† Braddan, in the Manks' language, fignifies a Salmon; and this church probably derives its name from its vicinity to a river which abounds with this delicate fifh.

and neighbours. Before the corpse a funeral hymn is sung, which closes on leaving the town*; but is resumed on approaching the place of burial. The corpse is then interred, according to the rites of the church of England: the solemnity of which, at Kirk-Braddan, is considerably heightened by the quiet and gloom of the surrounding scenery.

Colonel Townley, in his voluminous Journal of Trifles, has been pleased to give a ludicrous account of Kirk-Braddan. With such puerilities the old gentleman might have amused himself and his friends. But why should he have increased them by his misrepresentations; and then, to gratify his spleen, obtruded them on the public?

Besides the Nunnery, there are several houses pleasantly situate in the neighbourhood of Douglas. Of these I shall only enumerate Athol Lodge, the present residence of Lord Henry Murray; Ballaughton, enlivened by the generous conviviality of Captain Southcote; and the Hague, the seat of the late Richard Betham, LL. D.; a gentleman, whose erudition was truly respectable; and to whose politeness and friendship I am highly indebted.

The land round Douglas, though perhaps not the richest, is certainly the best cultivated in the island. Of late years several English farmers, sinking under the accumulated taxes of their own country, have retired to a land, as yet exempt from such oppression. Here they enjoy peace and abundance; while the success attending their agricultural labours seems at length to have roused the Manks from their lethargy. The marshy grounds are now drained; the waste lands enclosed, and nourished with lime, marle†, and sea-weed; cultivation begins to throw a rich verdure over hill and vale; and the yellow harvests now wave luxuriant "o'er the smiling land." The value of landed property, of course, is now considerably increased; the country enriched by the exportation of produce; and the markets at home abundantly stored with a variety of provisions. Eggs, butter, and poultry, are here very plentiful. Beef seldom exceeds 2d. a pound; mutton is equally cheap, and perhaps the most delicious in the world. Pork is still cheaper. The pigs fed at home are reasonably large; and have sometimes a fishy flavour: but there is a small species, called Purs, which run wild on the mountains, and are esteemed a most admirable delicacy. Hares, partridges, and moor-game are plentiful: and of fish there is great variety.

From this abundance of domestic comforts, and the plenitude of foreign luxuries, persons of small fortunes here enjoy life in its full flow: for here, the oppression of game-laws, land-taxation, and excise-establishment are utterly unknown‡.

In permitting one article of commerce the Manks are certainly culpable. Great quantities of excellent grain are annually exported; and in return very indifferent flour is imported for domestic consumption. But this error will, I hope, in a few months be remedied; for, since I left the island, Captain Taubman has informed me, that on his estates grain-mills are now erecting, which will soon be sufficient for the supply of the island. The same gentleman has lately endeavoured to promote among his countrymen a more universal spirit for agriculture: and as a striking proof of its blessings,

* The Manks' church-yards are generally in some romantic spot, retired from the towns and villages.

† In the north side of the island marle is very plentiful. The sweepings of the red-herring-houses are esteemed a rich manure.

‡ The only taxes in the island are 10s. 6d. on each publican per annum; 5s. 2d. on grey-hounds and pointers; and 5d. on other dogs. These taxes, with a very moderate statute duty, are appropriated to the repairs of the public roads; which are, in general, equal to any in England, without being fettered at every turning with odious imposts: in the whole island there is not a single turnpike. The mercantile imposts I shall afterwards mention.

has cultivated a hill in the vicinity of Douglas, which, a few years since, was one of the most barren spots in the island. His patriotic enterprize certainly merits imitation; for with every advance of agriculture, the comforts of life, and consequently the happiness of society, gradually increase.

CHAP. VI. — *Newtown. — Balafalla. — The Cotton-Works. — The Deemster's-Court. — Propensity of the Manks to trifling Litigations.*

HAVING passed a few weeks at Douglas, in visiting those scenes which had once been the witness of my earlier pleasures, I was induced by two of my friends to accompany them in an ambulatory excursion round the island.

We set out from Douglas early in the morning. The weather was delightfully serene. As we passed the nunnery, the sun in all his glory, broke from the horizon. Nature seemed to rejoice at his return. The ocean imbibed his rosy beams; and the mountains of Mona flamed with his radiance. The neighbouring vales were in luxuriant blossom, and exhaled the fragrance of the morning; while the surrounding groves poured forth the melting melodies of rapture and love.

The next object which engaged our attention was a bevy of country-lasses, going at that early hour to Douglas-market. They were seated on small horses with panniers; one side of which were filled with the produce of their little farms, and the other generally balanced with pebbles. The rose of health was glowing on their cheek; and gladness smiled in every eye. Their deportment was modest and unaffected; and, as they advanced, with an air of the sweetest simplicity they wished us good morning. — "Happy souls!" I exclaimed, "unacquainted are ye with that courtly polish, which refines away every virtue. Your homely salutation is genuine politeness; for it is the offspring of truth and benevolence!"

Soon after parting with this rustic group of beauty and innocence, we came to Newtown, the residence of Sir Wadsworth Busk, Attorney-General of the island. The house is elegant: and Sir Wadsworth's fine taste endeavoured to embellish some of the neighbouring fields; but the sterility of the soil, in a great measure, has frustrated every attempt. Yet, in this retirement Sir Wadsworth devotes himself to the pursuits of literature and the enjoyment of domestic virtues.

At a little distance from Newtown, on the top of a mountain, Sir Wadsworth erected a pillar inscribed to the Queen, in commemoration of His Majesty's recovery in 1789; which has little to recommend it to a traveller's attention, except the loyalty it expresses. To the fishermen on this side of the island, it however proves, from its elevation, an excellent sea-mark.

After leaving Newtown we proceeded to Balafalla, a neat village, pleasantly situated about two miles from Castletown. Here is a cotton-work, belonging to Messrs. De-la-Prime; which is conducted on the same principles with those in Lancashire, and gives employment to many poor families in the neighbourhood. The raw cotton is imported from Liverpool, and, when spun, is sent to Manchester. The vicinity of the island to these markets, united with other circumstances which I shall afterwards mention, renders this country highly advantageous for the establishments of such works. Is it not then astonishing, that this should be the only one in the island; when private interest so conspicuously unites with public good for establishing them in this country?

But the village of Balafalla at present acquires a greater degree of importance from the residence of the Deemster, or Chief Justice of the island, than from the cotton-works.

works. There were formerly two Deemsters; one for the northern, and the other for the southern division of the island: but the present Deemster, Thomas Moore, Esq. a man of considerable abilities and penetration, enjoys the honours and emoluments of both offices; a regular court being held at Balafalla for the south division of the isle, and an occasional one at the north side for that department *.

This office was anciently of great dignity. The Deemsters were not only the chief Judges of the isle; they were also the Lord's Privy-counsellors: and their influence over the people, in some degree, resembled the civil authority of the ancient Druids. They were esteemed the venerable oracles of justice, and in their bosoms resided the laws, which only on important occasions, were divulged to the people †.

In each of the four towns there is a bailiff, or inferior judge, who gives judgement for small debts, not exceeding forty shillings of Manks' currency. But all money-litigations to a greater amount, and prosecutions for defamation, personal injuries, &c. &c. are generally brought before the Deemster at Balafalla: who either determines them according to his own judgement; or should they be important, deems them to be decided by a jury at common-law, where he sits as one of the judges.

The Manks have a culpable propensity to trifling litigations. A rash word, a cholerick action, or a wound which the hand of friendship might easily have healed, is by the malicious industry of those who batten on the follies and errors of mankind, swelled into an intolerable offence. Both parties prepare for the combat; and both are confident of success. This depends on the justice of his cause; and that on the abilities of his attorney, or the accommodating evidence of his witnesses. At length the eloquence of the Manks bar begins to flow. Impertinence, and insolence, are copiously poured forth by the one pleader; and as liberally returned by the other: and when the attorneys have exhausted their potent eloquence, and a few witnesses have been permitted to perjure themselves, the business generally terminates in favour of the party whose witnesses have been least scrupulous.

Surely, such an encouragement of idleness, malevolence, and perjury, ought to be checked. Trifling disputes ought to be crushed in their infancy; and the litigious punished: while the professional promoters of this infamous traffick ought to be banished from society, as enemies to social concord and happiness. The asperity of this reflection may be applied to individuals, but ought not to be extended to the profession of the law; for in every country I believe there are lawyers of integrity and benevolence, who, as well defending the innocent, as prosecuting the guilty, certainly merit the approbation of mankind. Even in this island I could mention some gentlemen, who, sensible of the dangerous tendency of the trifling litigations so frequently agitated at Balafalla, confine their pleadings to the courts of common law and chancery.

CHAP. VII.—*The Abbey.—Its ancient Dignity.—Reflections on Monastical Institutions.—An interesting Story.*

AT a little distance from Balafalla is pleasantly situated the venerable abbey of St. Mary of Rushen, founded in the year 1098, by one Mac Manis, a person whose wisdom and virtue raised him, by the universal consent of the people, to the diadem of the isles; and from founding this monastery, it may be presumed, that his piety was not inferior

* Since this was written, at the requisition of the Duke of Athol, a Deemster for the northern department has been again appointed.

† This concealment of the laws is an undoubted relic of Druidism.

to his other virtues. This religious establishment consisted of an abbot and twelve monks; who at first lived by their manual labour, and denied themselves the indulgence of wearing shoes, furs, and linen; or of eating flesh, except on journeys. But this apostolical mode of living did not long continue. Their primitive humility, labour, and self-denial, soon yielded to monastick pride, luxury, and indolence. Their revenue was increased by a third of the tithes of the whole kingdom of Man. Magnificent buildings were added to the original edifice. Their rooms became more sumptuous; their habit more commodious; and their table far more luxurious. Their orchards, which from situation were finely sheltered, became more spacious and abundant; while their extensive lands, from cultivation, grew every day of greater value. Their temporal dignity was also increased. The abbot became a baron of the island; was invested with power to hold temporal courts in his own name; and could exempt his own tenant, although a criminal, from the sentence of the Lord's Court; and try him by a jury of his own vassals.

However highly we may condemn that plenitude of power, with which the dignitaries of the church were formerly entrusted; however justly we may accuse them of ambition, indolence, and sensuality: let us not obliterate their virtues, by a remembrance of their crimes; but recollect, that from the barbarity of Goths and Vandals, science, with her beauteous train, sought an asylum amid monastical gloom and superstition; from whence she afterwards burst on an admiring world, in all her light and beauty. Nor were those institutions unfavourable to humanity, considering the ferocity of the ages to which we now allude. The stranger frequently blessed the hospitality, and the poor, the bounty, of the monks; while the sick were visited, and "the oil of gladness" poured into the wounds of the afflicted.

The monks of Rushen Abbey were of the Cistercian order; and were not inferior to their brethren in hospitality and beneficence: for, according to an ancient writer, "they were accounted the almoners of the poor." The election of their abbot was generally sanctioned by the approbation of the abbot of Furness; to whom not only this monastery, but perhaps even the bishoprick of the island was in some degree subject*.

Many of the kings of the isles being interred in this abbey, it was not only liberally endowed but richly decorated. In the year 1316 it was however plundered by Richard le Mandeville; who, with a numerous train of Irish, landed at Rannesway on ascension-day; defeated the Manks, and ravaged their country: however, after a month's residence, he re-embarked with his people for Ireland.

Rushen-abbey, with the adjoining lands, is now the property of the Deemster. Every vestige of its interior magnificence has disappeared; but the ruins of this venerable monastery still retain an air of gloomy grandeur.

The abbey-bridge is situated in a romantic spot, and by the Manks is esteemed of great antiquity. Near the monastery is shewn a tomb stone of one of the abbots, which is distinguished by the pastoral staff and a broad sword; denoting he had as well temporal, as spiritual, authority. There is, however, no date or inscription now visible.

* The following account of this abbey is taken from Tanner's *Notitia Monastica*:

"Ruffin or Ryshen, Cistercian abbey. A religious foundation is said to have been begun here A. D. 1098, by Mac Manis, governor of the isle; but Olave, king of Man, giving some possessions here to the abbey of Furness, in Lancashire, Ivo or Evan, abbot there, built a Cistercian abbey here, A. D. 1134, to the honour of the blessed virgin, and made it subordinate to Furness. A. D. 1192, the monks removed to Duglas or Douglas; where they continued four years, and then returned to Ruffin, and flourished there till some time after the suppression of those houses in England.

Before I leave this once-hallowed place, it may not be improper to present the reader with a short piece of monastic history; which shall be given without any comment; premising only, that there are still some vestiges of a subterraneous road, leading from the abbey to the castle, that seem to confirm what tradition has preserved.

In the thirteenth century, Ivar, a young and gallant knight, was enamoured of the beauteous Matilda. Her birth and fortune were inferior; but his generous mind disdained such distinctions. He loved, and was most ardently beloved. The sanction of the king was alone wanting to consummate their happiness. To obtain this, Ivar, in obedience to the custom of the island, presented his bride to Reginald, a gay and amorous prince; who, struck with the beauty and innocence of Matilda, heightened by an air of modesty, immediately, for some pretended crimes, banished Ivar from his presence, and by violence detained the virgin. Grief and indignation alternately swelled her bosom, till from the excess of anguish she sunk into a state of insensibility. On awakening, her virtue was insulted by the approaches of the tyrant. She was however deaf to his insinuations; and only smiled at his menaces. Irritated at her contempt, and flattering himself that severity would subdue her truth and chastity, he imprisoned her in the most solitary apartment of the castle; where, for some months, she passed the tedious night and day in tears; far more solicitous for the fate of Ivar, than affected by her own misfortunes.

In the mean time, Ivar, failing in his attempt to revenge his injuries, assumed the monastic habit, and retired into Rushen-abbey. Here he dedicated his life to piety; but his heart was still devoted to Matilda. For her he sighed; for her he wept; and to indulge his sorrows without restraint, would frequently withdraw into the gloomiest solitudes. In one of those solitary rambles he discovered a grotto, which had been long unfrequented. The gloom and silence of this retirement corresponding with the anguish of his mind, he sauntered onward, without reflecting where the subterraneous path might conduct him. His imagination was portraying the graces of Matilda, while his heart was bleeding for her sufferings. From this reverie of woe he was however soon awoken by the shriek of a female. Advancing eagerly, he heard in a voice nearly exhausted—"Mother of God! Save Matilda?" while through a chink in the barrier which now separated them, he saw the virgin, with dishevelled hair and throbbing bosom, about to be sacrificed to the lust and violence of Reginald. Rage and madness gave new energy to Ivar; who, forcing a passage through the barrier, rushed upon the tyrant; and, seizing his sword, which lay carelessly on the table, plunged it into its master's bosom.

The tyrant died: and the lovers through this subterraneous communication escaped to the sea-side; where they fortunately met with a boat which conveyed them to Ireland: and in this kingdom the remainder of their years was devoted to the most exquisite of all human felicities; the raptures of a generous love, heightened by mutual admiration and gratitude.

This is the substance of the tradition; but according to some of the Manks records, Reginald was slain by Ivar, not in the castle of Rushen, but in a neighbouring meadow. This variation of the scene however does not materially affect the credit of the tradition; as the Manks historians impute Reginald's death, not so much to Ivar's ambition, as to his revenge of private injuries.

CHAP. VIII.—*Derby-Haven.—The Calf of Man.—Its romantic Solitude.—An Anchorite.*

WE passed the day at Balafalla, and next morning proceeded through some romantic scenery to Derby-Haven, a small village which only claims attention from its excellent harbour. In a little isle dedicated to St. Michael, a fort was erected by one of the Earls of Derby, with a view of defending the entrance of the haven. Though the tower is now falling to decay, part of the Derby arms may still be traced over the entrance, dated 1667. Near the tower is a ruined chapel, in which the remains of an altar piled up with rude stones, are still visible. But the fine view we had of Castletown and its romantic bay, afforded us far more pleasure than our researches among those ruins.

At Derby-Haven we engaged a boat for the Calf; where, after a very pleasant sail, we arrived about noon. The Calf is separated from the main island by a very narrow rocky channel, through which the tide rushes with astonishing violence. The isle is about five miles in circumference: and is fenced round by gloomy caverns and stupendous precipices; which not only seem to threaten immediate dissolution to every approacher, but really prove fatal to many mariners. A few years since, a Russian vessel, of 700 tons burthen, was dashed to pieces against these rocks, and every one of the numerous crew perished. The caves and precipices of the Calf are tenanted by a great variety of sea-birds, whose shrill discordant tones increase the wildness of the scenery. Gulls, wild-pigeons, and puffins, are the most numerous. This last bird is not to be seen in any part of the main isle. The Calf (I presume from its solitariness) is its only residence. It breeds in the rocks; and though remarkably fat and of a fishy taste and flavour, is esteemed by many of the natives as a great delicacy.

We landed in a small creek; and, leaving the sailors beneath, with some difficulty and danger, gained an eminence, from which we had a spacious and delightful prospect of the ocean, with a variety of shipping for many leagues; terminated on the south by the high mountains of Wales, and on the west by Ireland: while around lay the broad summit of the Calf covered with rich verdure, and underneath the rich vallies of the neighbouring shore.

This isle is the property of the Duke of Athol, and the land, with some little attention, would afford excellent pasturage. Several black cattle were grazing around; and formerly there was a large flock of sheep: but these, having only an old shepherd and his wife to protect them, soon became a prey to the nightly depredators from the neighbouring island.

In the close of the last century, one of the Earls of Derby was so charmed with the beauty and variety of the spot, that he sent over some quantities of red and fallow deer; but these have long since disappeared. Hare, partridge, and heath-game, are however plentiful; and to the few sportsmen who visit this spot afford ample amusement. But at present what constitutes the chief importance of the Calf are the rabbits; the skins of which, with the feathers of the sea birds, lately produced more than 200*l.* per annum. In our ramble round this solitary isle we could discover no human vestige, except a shepherd's hut now falling to decay. Near the middle of the Calf there are three pointed pillars, which from their novelty claimed our attention; one half from the base being of a black bastard marble, and the other of a shining spar, white as the new-fallen snow.

Solitude is frequently the nurse of woe. The wounded hart seeks the deepest shade; and the man of sorrow the most solitary retreat. According to tradition, this spot was

once

once the haunt of a woe-worn hermit, who by his splendour and affluence had been distinguished in the court of Queen Elizabeth; but having, through an ill-founded jealousy, murdered a most beautiful woman, he sought shelter here from the vengeance of her friends. Squalid in his attire, uncouth in his person, and wounded in his mind, amid the caves and lonely recesses of the Calf, he lengthened out a miserable existence; atoning by the severest mortifications for his criminal temerity.

The day, being delightfully serene, was highly favourable to our excursion; but the shades of evening now warned us to retire: when, after a long and lingering look on this very romantic solitude, we descended to our boat; and enjoying another charming sail, arrived at Castletown, highly pleased with the amusement of the day.

CHAP. IX.—*Castletown.—The Castle.—Its ancient Dignity and Importance.—Misfortunes of the Countess of Derby.—Governor of the Island.—Administration of Justice, &c.*

CASTLETOWN, though dignified with the residence of the governor of the isle, is in wealth and mercantile importance greatly inferior to Douglas. It is however an airy and pleasant town; and though considerably smaller, surpasses the other in neatness; the houses being more uniformly elegant, and the streets more spacious and regular. The town is divided by a small creek, which opens into a rocky and dangerous bay. The difficulty of entering its harbour certainly in some degree injures its commerce. A considerable quantity of grain is however annually exported; and a variety of merchandize imported: but the articles of rum, wine, sugar, tobacco, &c. according to the regulations of the customs, being admissible only into the port of Douglas, are from thence conveyed to the other towns of the island.

In the centre of the town, Castle-Rushen rears his gloomy and majestic brow, and for several miles overlooks the subject country. This solid and magnificent pile was raised in the year 960, by Guttred, a prince of the Danish line, who lies obscurely buried in the edifice he had founded; leaving it as the most durable monument of his regal dignity. It is built on a rock; and before the introduction of artillery was deemed impregnable. The figure of the castle is irregular; and by some travellers is said to resemble that of Elfinore. A stone glacis, supposed to have been built by Cardinal Wolsey, surrounds it. For several ages it has braved the injuries of time; and still retains, with its towers and battlements, the gloomy and formidable grandeur of Gothic architecture.

Before the subjugation of Man by the English, the kings of the island resided here in all the warlike pomp of those barbarous ages; supporting their splendour and dignity by oppressing, or destroying, mankind.

In the annals of modern history the isle of Man is distinguished by Hume, as the last place in Europe, tributary to the English, which yielded to the arms of the republic. After the decollation of James, the seventh Earl of Derby (for his enthusiastic loyalty to Charles the first) his lady, a French woman of princely birth and heroic spirit, fought with her children an asylum in Castle Rushen; and presuming on the valour of Sir Thomas Armstrong*, the fidelity of Captain Christian†, and the attachment of the islanders, flattered herself with the hopes of defending it against the republican army. However, when Colonels Birch and Duckenfield, with ten armed vessels invaded the

* Governor of the Castle.

† Commander of the Insular Forces.

island, Christian, either possessing less zeal, or more prudence than his lady, surrendered this fortress to their first summons; and thereby saved the inhabitants of the isle from bloodshed and misery: yet, for this generosity he has been represented by the sycophants of royalty, as the betrayer, while in truth he was the preserver, of his country.

The pride of the Countess of Derby was severely wounded by this event. She was, however, honoured with generosity and respect, during her captivity in Castle Rushen. The republican soldiers, remembering her gallant defence of Latham-house, admired her heroism: the officers emulated each other, in paying a just deference to the dignity of her mind, and the delicacy of her sex: while the Majesty of the English republic disdained to resent the arrogance of the seventh Earl of Derby, by any indignity to his captive widow.

On the restoration of Charles the second she returned to England, with the sanguine hopes of recovering the whole of her lord's forfeited estates, and of obtaining ample vengeance on her enemies. But this prodigal and voluptuous monarch was too much engaged in prosecuting his own pleasures, to revenge the injuries, or reward the sufferings of his friends. Among many others, the Countess of Derby was neglected; which so affected her lofty spirit, that with the highest indignation she retired to Knowsley, where she soon after died, bewailing the ingratitude of kings.

Castle-Rushen still retains an air of royalty. Its Gothic apartments are occupied by the governor, and the barracks by some companies of soldiers, who are seldom permitted to reside much longer than a twelvemonth in the island; but whose intercourse with the inhabitants of Castletown increases their trade, and undoubtedly contributes to render them more polished and affable than their neighbours of Ramfay and Peel.

The governor of the island is invested with ample powers*. He is the representative of Majesty; and a council, consisting of the bishop, attorney-general, clerk of the rolls, and deemster, is appointed to guide and sanction his decisions. He is Captain-General of the troops in the island, and sole judge in the court of chancery. In his name all arrests and judgments are issued; and without his permission no person can (without a heavy penalty† to the master of the vessel that carries him) depart from the island. The governor is also an important member of the Manks legislature; for his assent, with the advice of his council, constitutes the acts of the house of keys into a law; which remains valid, till it is either confirmed, or annulled, by his Majesty's commands, communicated to the governor by the secretary of state for the home department.

Castletown also derives importance from the courts of chancery and common law being held here: but as these are now conducted on principles nearly similar to our English courts of justice, I shall only mention two peculiarities which still remain. Although any person may plead his own cause, yet none but natives are allowed to practise at the Manks bar. Besides this birth right, a Manksman enjoys another which is more universally important. No native, without intending to leave his country, can be imprisoned for debt: his effects alone can be distrained; while a loathsome and hideous prison‡ is ever ready, for the most trifling debts, to receive the unfortunate stranger. However on swearing that he has no maintenance, he is entitled to 3s. 6d. a week

* The governor and lieutenant-governor have equal and independent powers; but the salary of the one is 400l. per annum, and of the other only 240l.

† The master of a vessel carrying a debtor off the island, without the governors' pass, is subject to a penalty of 10l. besides being amenable to pay his debts: and on returning, the vessel may be seized, till satisfaction is given. The pass costs 9d. Manks currency.

‡ A dungeon in Castle-Rushen.

the creditor : and this generosity of the law, perhaps more than the humanity of his creditor, generally prevents any tedious imprisonments for debt in this dungeon.

Before I conclude this subject it may not be improper to mention, that, for the most part, justice is impartially distributed to the native and alien : though sometimes the prejudices of a Manks judge, or a Manks jury, prove injurious to the stranger.

Near the castle stands the House of Keys, a building certainly not corresponding with the dignity of the representatives of the country. But of this legislative body I shall give a more ample account in a subsequent chapter, on the constitution of the island.

CHAP. X.—*Departure from Castletown.—Marble Quarry.—Kirk-Malew.—Giant's Quoiting Stones.—Fairy Hill.—Various Superstitions of the Manks.—Reflections thereon.*

AFTER our return from the Calf we amused ourselves for the next day at Castletown ; and early on the following morning proceeded on our journey.

About a mile from Castletown there is a very fine quarry of black marble, which is much esteemed by the natives for chimney pieces, tombstones, &c. That lofty flight of steps, leading to the noblest edifice in the world, was taken from this quarry, and presented to the dean and chapter of St. Paul's by the venerable Bishop Wilton.

There are also near Castletown, within the sea-mark, some quarries of lime-stone, which are wrought at low water ; and, during the recess of the fishery, employ some boats for its conveyance to the more distant parts of the island.

On leaving the quarries, we visited the parochial church of Kirk-Malew ; a gloomy and venerable building, situate, as the Manks churches generally are, in a romantic solitude : and the various monuments in the church-yard gave us another opportunity of admiring the pious veneration of the natives for their deceased friends.

From Kirk-Malew we proceeded to Kirk-Christ-Rushen, and in our way passed the Giant's Quoiting Stones ; two very lofty square pillars, placed at a considerable distance from each other, concerning which the neighbouring cottagers have a very chimerical tradition, that might astonish, but could not amuse the reader. At a little distance is fairy-hill, a noble tumulus, or Barrow, most probably raised by the Danes, over the ashes of many of their countrymen, who were here slain in battle : but tradition says, it was intended to perpetuate the remembrance of the death of Reginald, King of Man, who on this spot was killed in single combat, by Ivar. This romantic hill, in the opinion of the credulous natives, is still the scene of many a nocturnal revel :

“ What time, all in the moon's pale beam,
Dancing by mountain, wood, or stream,
To magic melody, the fays
In green and gold and diamonds blaze.”

Collins, whose poetry is exquisitely picturesque, describes Mona,

“ That isle where thousand elfin shapes are seen.”

and Dr. Langhorne, in his note on this passage observes, “ that the isle of Man is now almost the only place where there is any probability of seeing a fairy.” The existence of these imaginary beings is still most devoutly believed in this island : particularly, by the inhabitants of the mountains : and as they have invested them with unlimited influence over the fishery, they frequently supplicate their favour, or deprecate their wrath, by various offerings. When I formerly resided in the island, I one day took a ramble

up among the mountains, and, being benighted, sought shelter in a lonely cottage. The sole tenant of this clay-built hut was an aged peasant of a pensive and melancholy aspect. He received me with much hospitality; trimmed his little fire of turf and gorse, and, "skilled in visionary lore, beguiled the lingering hours."

From him I learned, that, notwithstanding all the holy sprinklings of the priests in former days, the fairies still haunted many places in the island: that there were playful and benignant spirits; and those who were sullen and vindictive. The former of these he had frequently seen on a fine summer evening, sitting on the margin of the brooks and waterfalls, half-concealed among the bushes; or dancing on the tops of the neighbouring mountains. He described them as gay, beautiful, and by no means so diminutive as the English fairies: adding, that they were chiefly like women, but certainly more shy than any he was acquainted with; for they never permitted him more than a transient glance of their charms, and, on venturing to approach them, they immediately vanished. These sportive beings, my host observed, rejoiced in the happiness of mortals; but the sullen fairies delighted in procuring human misery. These lived apart from the others, and were neither beautiful in their persons, nor gorgeous in their array. They were generally enveloped in clouds, or in the mountain fogs; and haunted the hideous precipices and caverns on the sea-shore. My host added, that to them, Manksmen imputed all their sufferings: for he himself had often heard them, in a dark stormy night, yell, as in barbarous triumph, when the tempest was desolating the country, or dashing vessels to pieces on the neighbouring rocks.

Besides the fairy-superstition, many of the Manks, like the natives of the "Hebrid-isles," believe in the second sight, and in warnings and fore-sight of their own death. Sometimes, amid the awful silence of midnight, many have heard themselves repeatedly summoned by name to depart; and several, in their lonely rambles, have met with a visionary funeral, which, unseen by any other person, followed the man destined to die, wherever he turned; till the apparition of the nearest relation then present seemed to touch him, when the whole instantaneously vanished; and the devoted wretch immediately felt a cold tremor over all his frame, and his heart affected with the sickness of death.

The Manks have also warnings of the death of others; at least so far as the following story may be credited; which I transcribe from Sacheverell's letter to his friend the celebrated Joseph Addison, who it is well known, notwithstanding the philosophy of his illuminated mind, paid some deference to the probability of popular superstitions:

"As to the light being generally seen at people's deaths, I have some assurances so probable, that I know not how to disbelieve them: particularly, an ancient man, who has been long clerk of a parish, has affirmed to me, that he almost constantly sees them upon the death of any of his own parish; and one Captain Leathes, who was chief magistrate of Belfast, assured me he was once shipwrecked on this island, and lost great part of his crew; that when he came on shore the natives told him, he had lost thirteen of his men; for they saw so many lights going toward the church; which was just the number lost. Whether these fancies proceed from ignorance, superstition, or from any traditionary, or heritable magic; or whether nature has adapted the organs of some persons for discerning of spirits, I cannot possibly determine."

So far says Mr. Sacheverell. We may however, without being guilty of presumption, impute these superstitions of the Manks to a native melancholy, cherished by indolence, and heightened by the wild, solitary, and romantic scenes to which they are accustomed from their infancy. A Manksmen, amid his lonely mountains, reclines by some romantic stream; the murmurings of which lull him into a pleasing torpor.

Half.

Half-slumbering he sees a variety of imaginary beings, which he believes to be real. Sometimes they may resemble his traditionary idea of fairies; and sometimes they may assume the appearance of his friends and neighbours, attending some nuptial or funeral solemnity. Presuming on these dreams, which the Manks enthusiast accounts supernatural visions, he predicts, with several general descriptions, some marriage or death in the neighbourhood: and when this prediction is lively in the minds of his friends, should any such ceremony occur, it immediately, in their opinion, constitutes the Manks visionary into a real prophet; but should no such prediction be then fulfilled, the credit of his future visions is in no respect diminished thereby.

I make no doubt but, amid hideous solitudes, a man of a melancholy or superstitious mind may insensibly form lively visions of some dreadful calamity he is about to suffer; and which may not only receive strength, but even completion, from a sombrous imagination, heightened by traditionary terrors. With the world of spirits we are little acquainted. But I can never reconcile it, even to our ideas of the majesty, wisdom, and benevolence, of the deity, that he would communicate to a few indolent recluses such revelations of "the unknown world," as could only flatter vanity, or accelerate human misery.

CHAP. XI.—*The Mines.—A beautiful Cascade.—Tynwald Hill.—St. John's Chapel.—Peel.—Its ancient Castle.—Ruins of the Cathedral.—Instability of human Grandeur.*

FROM Fairy-hill we proceeded through a mountainous part of the country, to the lead-mines at Foxdale; which are wrought, under the government of a company in London, by a few miners from Derbyshire. The ore being rich and abundant, the mines afford an ample recompence to the workmen; and would prove highly lucrative to the proprietors, were they conducted with more vigour and attention. Besides these, there is a strong presumption of copper-mines in this country; for, according to Sacheverell's letter to Addison, "there is a pool in the mountainous part of Kirk-Christ-Rushen, of so vitriolic a quality, that no ducks or geese can live near it; which probably proceeds from the particles of copper, that are discovered on all sides of those mountains." Sacheverell adds, "there is also a great probability of coal;" but, in the course of a century, this probability has never been ascertained. The inhabitants of the interior parts of the island are however plentifully supplied with turf from the morasses, and those of the sea-ports with coal from the exhaustless mines of Cumberland.

At a little distance from the lead-mines is a very romantic and beautiful cascade, which leaps down the neighbouring mountains, till it approaches a steep perpendicular rock; from whence, with much rapidity, it throws itself into the vale below. The fall is from a considerable height; and its picturesque beauty, and wild melody, receive an additional effect from the solitude of the surrounding scenery.

About two miles nearer Peel is the Tynwald-hill, a Danish barrow of a conic shape and beautiful structure; which, considering its ancient dignity and importance, we regarded with some degree of enthusiastic reverence.

The vestiges of two gates, and of a wall which once fenced it round, are now scarcely visible; but the rest of this important mount is entire. The approach to the summit is up a spacious flight of grassy steps, fronting the ancient chapel of St. John's. Below the summit, there are three circular seats raised for the different orders of the people. The lowest is about four feet in width, and eighty yards in circumference. In the circuit

and width of the two higher, there is a proportionable diminution; and each seat is regularly advanced three feet above the other: while the summit, on which was anciently placed the chair of state, does not exceed two yards in diameter.

This romantic spot is situated near the centre of the island: and here, in 1417, Sir John Stanley, King and lord of Man, convened the whole body of the people, to witness the first promulgation of the laws; which, till that æra, had been locked up in the breasts of their venerable Deemsters*. The Tynwald-hill is, in some degree, still the scene of legislation; for all laws, respecting the internal polity of the island, are never constitutionally binding, till, according to immemorial usage, they are promulgated at this place; from which custom, the legislature, framing such acts, are denominated a Tynwald-court; and the laws of the island, acts of Tynwald †.

The artificial mount of Tynwald has received little injury from the lapse of ages; but the ancient chapel of St. John's is now desolate and ruinous. The roof is greatly shattered, and the walls are now a sheltering place to the sheep in the neighbourhood.

About noon we passed the pleasant villa of the late Sir George Moore; and soon after arrived at Peel, which now ranks as the third town of the island; though, from its impregnable castle, it was anciently deemed the most important. Previous to 1765, Peel had a considerable traffick with the Irish and Scotch smugglers; but since then, its trade has almost disappeared. The town at present is inert and solitary, and the houses in general have a poor and miserable aspect; yet, situated near the harbour, are some stately buildings, which may be considered as the only relics of its former wealth and commerce. Small vessels occasionally visit the harbour: its exports however are few, and its imports chiefly from Douglas. The inhabitants are for the most part indolent and poor; but being hardy, seem contented with their humble blessings. Peel bay is spacious, and abounds with a variety of fish; particularly with the red-cod, which is an exquisite delicacy. It is of a bright vermilion colour; and feeds among rocks, covered with weeds and mosses of a crimson tinge. From these, perhaps, this beautiful fish derives its peculiar colour: for, as the vermilion hues of the moss and plants fade, the bright beauty of the fish also decreases.

At the north boundary of Peel-bay is a range of several very grotesque and romantic caverns; supposed by the superstitious natives, to be the subterraneous palaces of those sullen and malignant spirits which I formerly mentioned. The south extremity of the bay is formed by Peel-isle, an extensive and lofty rock encircled by the sea; the summit of which is crowned with the venerable and very picturesque ruins of the castle of Peel, and the cathedral of Mona, dedicated to St. Germain, the first bishop of the isle ‡. This romantic and important spot is still fenced round with a wall, having towers and battlements; and, before the modern improvements in the art of war, certainly repelled every invader.

Besides the castle and cathedral, there are scattered around, some other noble fragments of antiquity; particularly, the ruins of St. Patrick's church, the armoury, the lord's mansion, and the episcopal palace.

From these relics we may however conjecture, that before the erection of Castle-Ruhen, Peel-castle was the residence of the princes and peers of Mona: but alas! its ancient grandeur has long since perished. The once formidable strength of its battlements

* In the historical department of the work, I have given an ample account of this memorable Convention.

† "Formerly a Tynwald-court was annually held on St. John's day; and every person had a right to present any uncommon grievance, and to have his complaint heard in the face of the whole country."

‡ He lived in the fifth century.



Engraved by George Cooke.

*Tynwald Hill,
(Isle of Mann)*

London, Published by Longman, Hurst, Rees, & Orms, Paternoster Row, April 1839.

and towers is now yielding to the injuries of time. Its massy columns are levelled with the dust; and its ornaments lie scattered around, among noisome weeds; while the mouldering walls are, in many places, only supported by the clasping ivy. Yet such is the general fate of humanity. Time has defaced the grandeur of this Gothic edifice; and sooner, or later, the same power will triumph over human genius, and destroy every monument of the pride of man. Virtue alone will survive the wreck of worlds: for, virtue, though human, is immortal.

To this account of Peel isle I shall beg leave to subjoin Mr. Grose's more minute description, as he has anticipated some of those observations which occurred to me, on visiting the place. The following particulars are transcribed from the fourth volume of his *Antiquities of England*.

"Peel-castle stands on a small rocky island, about an hundred yards north of the town. The channel which divides it from the main land, at high water is very deep; but when the tide is out, is scarcely mid-leg deep, being only separated by a little rivulet, which runs from Kirk Jarmyn mountains. The entrance into this island is on the south side, where a flight of stone steps, now nearly demolished, though strongly cramped with iron, come over the rocks to the water's edge; and turning to the left, others lead through a gateway in the side of a square tower into the castle. Adjoining to this tower is a strong vaulted guard-room.

"The walls enclose an irregular polygon, whose area contains about two acres. They are flanked with towers, and are remarkably rough, being built with a coarse grey stone, but coigned and faced in many parts with a red gritt found in the neighbourhood. It is highly probable this island has been fortified in some manner ever since the churches were built; but the present works are said, by Bishop Wilson, to have been constructed by Thomas, Earl of Derby, who first encompassed it with a wall, probably about the year 1500.

"Here are the remains of two churches; one dedicated to St. Patrick, the æra of its erection unknown; the other called St. Germain's, or the cathedral, constructed about the year 1245. It is built, in the form of a cross, with a coarse grey stone; but the angles, window-cases, and arches, are coigned and formed with a stone found hereabouts, almost as red as brick. This mixture of colours has a pleasing effect, and gives a richness and variety to the building. The cathedral is now extremely ruinous, much of it unroofed, and the remainder so much out of repair, that it would not be oversafe for a congregation to assemble in it. The eastern part of it is, however, still covered and shut up, in which there are seats, and a pulpit. This was the episcopal cemetery; and the inhabitants still bury within and about its walls.

"Beneath the easternmost part of it is the ecclesiastical prison. The descent into this vault is by eighteen steps; and the roof is vaulted by thirteen ribs, forming pointed arches, and supported by as many short semi-hexagonal pilasters, only twenty-one inches above ground. The bottom of this place is extremely rough; and in the north-west corner is a well, or spring, which must have added greatly to the natural dampness of the place; to which there is no other air or light, but what is admitted through a small window at the east end.

"About the middle of the area, a little to the northward of the churches of St. Patrick and St. Germain, is a square pyramidal mount of earth, terminating obtusely. Each of its sides faces one of the cardinal points of the compass, and measures about 70 yards. Time and weather have rounded off its angles; but on a careful observation it will be found to have been originally of the figure here described. For what use this mount was intended may not be easy to determine. Perhaps from this eminence the commanding

commanding officer harangued his garrison, and distributed his orders; or else it may have been the burial-place of some great personage in very early times; tumuli of this kind not being uncommon in the Island."

This account of Peel-Isle I shall conclude with the following historical passage from Waldron:

"It was in this castle that Eleanor, wife to Humphrey duke of Gloucester, uncle to King Henry the Sixth, and lord protector of England, was confined, after being banished through the malice of the duke of Suffolk, and cardinal of Winchester; who accused her of having been guilty of associating herself with wizards and witches, to know if her husband would ever attain the crown, and other treasonable practices. Sir John Stanley, then lord of Man, had the charge of her, and having conducted her to the island, placed her in this castle; where she lived in a manner befitting her dignity, nothing but liberty being refused; she appeared however so turbulent and impatient under this confinement, that he was obliged to keep a guard over her, not only because there were daily attempts made to get her away, but also to prevent her laying violent hands on her own life. They tell you, that ever since her death, to this hour, a person is heard to go up the stone stairs of one of these little houses on the walls, constantly every night as soon as the clock has struck twelve; but I never heard any one say they had seen what it was, though the general conjecture is, that it is no other than the troubled spirit of this lady, who died, as she had lived, dissatisfied, and murmuring at her fate."

CHAP. XII. — *Kirk-Michael.*—*Noble Relic of Norwegian Antiquity.*—*A druidical Temple.*—*Character and History of the Druids.*

IN contemplating the venerable and majestic ruins of Peel-castle, we passed the greater part of the day, and next morning proceeded on our ambulatory excursion through the island. Returning to St. John's, and taking the road to Kirk-Michael, we entered a romantic and solitary dell, watered by a brawling stream, and environed with a range of steep and wild mountains. This narrow valley continued for some miles; where the eye was sometimes relieved by the view of a lonely cottage, or of a few straggling sheep feeding on the mountains. But on gaining an ascent at the extremity of this dell, we had a delightful prospect of the country, enriched with villages and farms, extending many miles before us.

About noon we reached Kirk-Michael, an extensive village pleasantly situated near the sea, about half-way from Peel to Ramfay. Sauntering through the village before dinner, we had soon an opportunity of admiring a noble relic of antiquity, which is elevated before the entrance of the church-yard. It is a lofty square pillar of blue stone, figured over with devices, curiously involved with each other, from the base to the summit; and is supposed to have been erected in honor of Thureelf, a Norwegian hero*. In this neighbourhood are several subterraneous caves, probably used by

* The following observations on this subject are copied from bishop Wilson's concise Account of the Isle of Man.

"There is perhaps no country in which more Runic inscriptions are to be met with, particularly on funeral monuments. They are generally cut upon long flat rag-stones, and are to be read from the bottom upwards. The inscriptions are generally upon one edge of the stones; and on both sides are crosses, and little embellishments of men on horseback, or in arms, flags, dogs, birds, and other devices; probably, the achievements of some notable person. In several of the barrows have been found urns full of burnt bones, white and as fresh as when interred. And in the last century were dug up several brass daggers and other

by the Danes and Norwegians for the sepulture of their dead; but what chiefly merited our observation, were some very noble pillars of white shining spar, placed in a circular form, which undoubtedly are the vestiges of a Druidical temple. Besides this, there are several other remains of those ancient priests and legislators in this island.

The Druids were the most venerable of human characters. As priests, they were deemed sacred; as legislators, politic; and as philosophers, enlightened and humane: while the nation cheerfully paid them the veneration due to the ministers of God, and the magistrates of the people.

Their government was truly patriarchal. They were the sacred fathers of their country. Amid their umbrageous oaks they sacrificed at the altar; and from the throne of justice gave laws to the nation. To render their civil character more venerable, they concealed from the vulgar several of their rites and ceremonies; and from this mysterious policy, some writers have presumed to condemn their worship as barbarous and inhuman. But their doctrines were pure and sublime; combining the unity of God, the immortality of the soul, and a just distribution of future rewards and punishments. They were also scientific observers of nature, and teachers of moral philosophy. Their precepts were never committed to writing, but delivered in verse to their pupils, who, by the intense study of many years, imprinted them on the memory. Residing in woods and caves, they were distinguished by the austerity and simplicity of their manners; and thus, by their knowledge, wisdom, and virtue, obtained a sovereign influence over the minds of the people. They decided all public and private controversies. The impious were awed at their frown; and the virtuous rejoiced in their smiles; while from their judgment there was no appeal. "No laws were instituted by the princes or assemblies, without their advice and approbation; no person was punished with bonds or death, without their passing sentence; no plunder taken in war was used by the captor, until the Druids determined what part they should seclude for themselves." Their power, as it sprung from virtue and genius, was not hereditary; but conferred on those whose merit might sanction the choice.

Such were the priests and rulers of the ancient Britons; who, in the first century, fled, from the ferocious sword of Roman conquest, to Anglesea, where they were soon followed by the satellites of despotism. In this isle, after nobly opposing these foes of liberty, they were defeated; their venerable king Caractacus carried in chains to Rome; and the whole race almost exterminated by the insatiate sword of the polished Romans.

The few who survived the general slaughter escaped to the Isle of Man, where they were generously received by their brethren; and amid the wild solitudes of this country, at a distance from the

"Cry of Havock and the Dogs of War,"

found a happy asylum. Here they planted new groves*; increased their temples; and for

other military instruments; with some nails of pure gold, having on the small end rivets of the same metal; which, from their make, appear to have been the nails of a royal target." A silver crucifix and some ancient coins of gold, silver, and brass, were also dug up, in the beginning of the present century.

* In those fine meadows called the Curragh, which were formerly an extensive bog, roots of oak-trees have been discovered at eighteen or twenty feet from the surface, which were probably buried here by some violent

for some ages governed the people by their mild laws and venerable institutions; till about the close of the fourth century, when the light of Christianity broke on this island; and then the Druids, who had ever contemned the idolatry of the neighbouring nations, gradually embraced a system of religion, which, in purity and sublimity, resembled, yet infinitely surpassed, their own.

CHAP. XIII. — *Bishop's Court.* — *Antiquity of the Bishoprick.* — *Characters of Bishops Wilton, Hildesley, Richmond, Mason, and Criggan.* — *Derivation of the Title of Sodor.* — *Patronage of the Bishoprick.* — *Bishop's Revenue and Officers.*

ABOUT a mile from Kirk-Michael is the residence of the bishop of Sodor and Man, which was formerly a venerable edifice; but by the present bishop the ancient palace was demolished, and on its ruins a modern building erected; inferior in external magnificence, but more adapted to the refinement and luxury of modern times.

The bishoprick of the island was founded in 447; and was committed to Germanus, a holy and prudent man, "ad regendum et erudiendum populum in fide Christi: *"—and, as a public testimony of the veneration due to his virtues, the cathedral of the isle was dedicated to him †. His successors were numerous, and some of them were distinguished by their learning and piety: among whom the Manks, with some degree of pride and gratitude, may rank the name of Isaac Barrow; a prelate of great beneficence, who in 1671 was translated to the see of St. Asaph. Some years afterwards, Thomas Wilton was consecrated bishop of Sodor and Man. This venerable prelate, after a life of exemplary piety and benevolence, died in the 58th year of his consecration, and lies buried in the church-yard of Kirk-Michael. Over his grave a monument has been erected by his son, the late dean of St. Paul's, with a very modest account of his father; concluding with,

"Let this island speak the rest!"

And well it may; for to bishop Wilton many of the poor natives are indebted for the most invaluable blessings.

Venerable in his aspect, meek in his deportment, his face illumined with benignity, and his heart glowing with piety, like his divine master, "he went about doing good." With the pride and avarice of prelacy he was totally unacquainted. His palace was a temple of charity. Hospitality stood at his gate, and invited the stranger and beggar to a plenteous repast. The day he devoted to benevolence, and the night to piety. His revenue was dedicated to the poor and needy. And not content with relieving the wants, or mitigating the woes of mankind, he was solicitous, by his precept and example, to conduct his little flock to the kingdom of Heaven. He died in the ninety-second year of his age, justly revered and lamented by the whole island: while his grave was watered with the tears of those whom his bounty had supported; his benignity had gladdened; or his eloquent piety had "turned into righteousness. Even to

violent concussion, subsequent to the æra of the Druids. Near Castletown, some traces of an earthquake, and of a volcanic eruption have been discovered. Tradition is however silent on these subjects.

* Jocelinus.

† "This cathedral was built by Simon, bishop of Sodor, who died in 1245, and was here buried."—Bishop Wilton.

this

this day, many of the inhabitants of the island never hear his name mentioned, but the tear of gratitude insensibly swells into their eye, and their faltering tongue blesses the memory of their pious and venerable benefactor.

Bishop Wilson was succeeded by Mark Hildesley, a prelate who assiduously imitated the piety and benevolence of his predecessor. At the desire of the Duke of Athol, he was nominated by the whole body of English bishops, as a person worthy of wearing the mitre which Bishop Wilson by his virtues had so adorned. Besides a life of private beneficence, he established a charity-school at Kirk-Michael; and under his auspices, the scriptures were translated into the Manks language.

He died in the 17th year of his consecration, and lies buried, with his wife, under a black marble monument, by the side of Bishop Wilson.

These two holy men seem to have been selected by Providence, and crowned with a length of years, that by their pious labours they might humanize and enlighten a barbarous people.

The next bishop of Sodor and Man was Richard Richmond, an eloquent preacher, yet a haughty prelate. He died at London, and was succeeded by George Mason, whose temerity has already been noticed. It may not however be improper to observe, that into this error he was seduced by the artifice of others, operating on his gratitude; and that his private character was virtuous and amiable. He died in 1784; and was succeeded by Claudius Criggan, the present bishop; a man of deep penetration, polished manners, and domestic virtues. Of his pulpit-eloquence there are several admirers; yet some have imagined his gesture too oratorical, and his language too florid, for the simplicity and dignity of a prelate.

The see of the island is stiled Sodor and Man; and this title of Sodor has perplexed many. Camden derives it from "a small island near Castletown, in which Pope Gregory the Fourth erected an episcopal see:" but no such island is now visible. Buchanan, speaking of the isle of Man, says; "*Superior ætas oppidum in ea Sodoram appellabat, in qua insularum episcopus sedem habebat**:" and Archbishop Spotswood writes, "that in the isle of Man a stately church was erected to the honour of our Saviour, called Sodorense Fanum; that is, the Temple of our Saviour: and hence it is that the bishops are stiled Sodorenses Episcopi†:" while others with a greater degree of probability, have derived the title of Sodor from a village of that name, in the isle of I-Columb-Kill, where the bishop of the western isles had anciently his residence; but after the Norwegian conquest of the isle of Man and the western isles of Scotland, the bishopricks were united with the title of Sodor and Man; which union continued till the English conquered this island, and then, the Bishop of Sodor and Man still retained his title, while the Scotch prelate assumed that of Bishop of the Isles‡.

By Henry the Fourth, the patronage of this bishoprick, with the royalty of the island, was granted to Sir John Stanley and his successors: and to this day, the Dukes of Athol, as his descendants, have the honour of nominating the Bishop of Sodor and Man: who, on receiving his Majesty's approbation, is consecrated by the Archbishop of York, and installed in Peel cathedral.

The Bishop was anciently the first baron in the realm, and at present claims (I presume chiefly through courtesy) the title and dignity of a peer §: but as the bishoprick

* Lib. i.

† Book first.

‡ After the English conquest, the name of Sodor was given to Peel-isle, (called by the Norwegians Holm) in which are the remains of the cathedral and episcopal palace.

§ "The arms of the bishoprick are upon three ascents, the Virgin Mary standing with her arms extended between two pillars: on the dexter whereof a church, in base the ancient arms of Man."—Sacheverell.

was not one of those spiritual baronies constituted by William the Conqueror, nor the bishop elected by the king's *congé d'elire*, he has no seat in the British parliament.

His power was formerly ample, and sometimes intolerant; but since the triumph over clerical oppression in 1643, it has been limited by moderation and justice. His revenue however increases; for within these few years it has exceeded 1200l. per annum: a liberal sum in this island, blessed with such abundance not only of the comforts, but also of the luxuries of life.

Under the bishop are an arch-deacon, two vicars-general, and an episcopal register who, with their prelate, compose the consistory-court, and have under their jurisdiction seventeen parishes. Of the parochial clergy I shall give some account in a subsequent chapter, on the manners and character of the Manks; and at present proceed to finish my journey through the island.

CHAP. XIV.—*Ramsay.—Kirk-Maughold.—Legend of Saint Maughold, confirmed by an historical Pillar.—Snaffield.—Its sublime and unparalleled Prospect.—Laxey.—Kirk-Conchan.—Return to Douglas.*

ON leaving bishop's court we had a delightful walk in the evening, through a fine country to Ramsay, where we arrived to supper. What I observed of Peel in a former chapter may with little variation be extended to this town. Both places before the sale of the island flourished by the gains of illicit commerce; and since then, the inhabitants of both seem to have been affected with a supine indifference towards opening new channels of trade and commerce. In one instance Ramsay has the advantage of Peel. The neighbouring country, being highly cultivated, produces a considerable quantity of grain; part of which is annually exported from the little harbour of Ramsay: but this may be considered, rather as the traffic of the farmers in the neighbourhood, than of the merchants in the town.

At Ramsay we met with little to engage our attention, and therefore left it early on the next morning. The sky was clear and serene; and the sun had just broke from the horizon, when we gained the summit of a steep hill in our way to Kirk-Maughold. Beneath us lay the spacious bay of Ramsay, glittering in his beams; while every object around us seemed to imbibe life and energy from his refulgence.

In observing the various beauties of the morning, we passed the tedious and solitary road, leading from Ramsay to Kirk-Maughold; a small village which derives its name from the following legend.

About the close of the fifth century Saint Maughold, who had formerly been a captain of Irish banditti, was cast upon this island, in a little leathern boat, his hands, and his feet, loaden with fetters. Such an object naturally awoke the attention of the bishop of the isle, who received him with admiration and pity; particularly, when the saint informed him, that this severity and danger he voluntarily suffered as a penance for his former wickedness. To this mountainous solitude, still distinguished by his name, he retired; when his penitence, austerity, and piety, obtained him such veneration, that, after the death of the bishop, he succeeded him, by the unanimous consent of the Manks nation. In 498 his pious celebrity was not confined to the island. It soon reached his native country: and St. Bridget, one of the tutelary saints of Ireland, and foundress of Douglas nunnery, visited him in his mountainous retirement; and there received from him the veil of virginity.

So far says the legend; and in confirmation of part of this history, there is still visible a beautiful quadrangular pillar near the church-gate of Kirk-Maughold.

On

On one side, under the capital, is sculptured a venerable figure of St. Maughold, conferring the veil on Saint Bridget, whom the sculptor has represented as a majestic, yet beautiful virgin. The opposite side has a representation of our Saviour expiring on the cross: and under it the arms of the island. On the third side is a figure of St. Bridget in a supplicating posture: her eye seems fixed on heaven, and her countenance indicates humility mingled with devotional rapture. The fourth side is totally defaced; but most probably it represented St. Maughold's arrival on the island, or some other part of his history.

Besides this beautiful relic of antiquity, there is also a fine Danish cross, sculptured on a large stone, reclining upon the ground just before the church-door, which certainly merits the regard of the antiquary.

KIRK-MAUGHOLD, notwithstanding its former celebrity, is now the most poor and lonely village in the island. The church stands on a very lofty promontory, in the centre of a church-yard, containing not less than five acres. It is enclosed by a strong mound of earth, faced on the outward side with stone; and a great variety of ancient and modern grave-stones are scattered over this spacious enclosure. Perhaps, from pious veneration to the memory of St. Maughold, the natives, for several ages, used this consecrated spot, as the chief place of interment in the island.

On leaving Kirk-Maughold we proceeded, through a very sterile part of the country, toward Douglas: and as the horizon continued pure and unclouded, we determined to enjoy the unparalleled prospect, which Snaffield affords in such delightful weather.

After climbing the lofty surrounding mountains, which only seemed to form a noble base to this stupendous pyramid of Nature, we gained, with much difficulty and fatigue, its towering summit; from whence we had a most sublime and enchanting prospect. Beneath us lay expanded the lesser mountains; and all around the romantic hills and vales of Mona, beautifully interspersed with their woods, waters, villages, and towns: the surrounding ocean, refulgent with the meridian sun, and covered with many a white sail, heightened the beauty and sublimity of the landscape; while to crown the whole, this charming prospect was terminated only by the majestic mountains of other kingdoms*.

Such a glorious view of the majesty of Nature not only charms the eye: it also purifies, and ennobles the soul. The mind is filled with a divine enthusiasm. Lost in admiration, we disregard human splendour; and with pity and contempt look down on the vanity and ambition of man. Our souls are weaned from earth, and already aspire to their native heaven.

After enjoying for some hours the highest of human pleasures, we left, with a considerable degree of reluctance, this enchanting scene; and by a rapid descent soon reached the village of Laxey.

This group of cottages lies in the bosom of a deep glen; and from its retired creek, is resorted to by the few smugglers who now visit the island. On the east it opens into a fine bay; and on the south, west, and north, is surrounded by steep and lonely mountains, which, with the deep vales between, afford some romantic scenery. Such picturesque solitudes are highly gratifying to a pensive imagination. Here, the charm-

* Snaffield has been termed the centre of the British dominions in Europe. Situate in the 54th degree of north latitude, and fourth degree of western longitude; it commands an extensive view of the mountains of Galloway, in Scotland; of Cumberland and Lancashire, in England; of Caernarvonshire, in Wales; and of Arklow in Ireland.

ing muse of Beattie might "feast on raptures ever new*:" and here the wounded heart of Laura Maria might indulge in all the luxury of woe. Having mentioned this lady, no less distinguished by her genius and sensibility than exquisite beauty, I am induced, by the favourable reception with which she honoured them, to republish a few verses addressed to her from this island, in 1791.

SONNET—INSCRIBED TO MRS. ROBINSON †.

THO' on thy cheek the living roses glow
 Lovelier, when bath'd in sorrows lucid tear;
 Tho' more enchanting heaves thy "breast of snow,"
 Pouring the sigh to pensive anguish dear;

Tho' sweeter flows thy soul-dissolving lay,
 Whene'er thy lute throbs to that deep'ning sigh
 As to the plaintive gale of sinking day,
 Vibrates the lyre of airy melody ‡:

Yet, ah! were mine the anguish-healing art,
 No more should sigh that beautiful "breast of snow,"
 Soft throbbing to the touch of sorrow's dart;
 But, tho' no costly balm I can bestow,
 Accept the incense of a pensive heart,
 Charm'd by thy magic melody of woe.

Amid the wild and picturesque scenes, in the vicinity of Laxey, we passed the greater part of the day; and in the evening proceeded to Kirk-Conchan, a pleasant and airy village, where the aliens who die in Douglas are usually interred. We visited the church-yard, which contains some marble monuments of a recent date; and about sun-set arrived at Douglas, highly delighted with our excursion through the island.

CHAP. XV.—*The Herring Fishery.—The Manks Fleet.—A Superstition highly injurious to the Fishery.—Reflections thereon.—The Manks Jubilee.*

SOON after our return to Douglas, I took an evening walk to the promontory south of the town. The weather was serene and delightful: the neighbouring fields were in full blossom: the windows of St. George's chapel flamed with the setting sun; and the ocean was tinged with his ruddy light. In the bay, vessels from many a port, with streamers waving in the wind, were waiting the completion of their cargoes; and at a distance, scattered along the horizon for many a league, were seen the white sails of four hundred fisher-boats; while the town beneath was a crowded scene of business, enlivened with mirth and festivity.

The herrings are supposed to migrate annually from the north of Europe in one immense body; but on arriving at the northern isles of Scotland, are broken into various huge shoals, which, after visiting several of the kingdoms of Europe, regularly return to the more northern regions. About the middle of summer a few stragglers appear off this island: but the fishery seldom commences till the middle of July; and for a month or six weeks continues off Peele, Port-Iron, and Castletown.

* See the Minstrel; a poem, in which the finest poetical imagery is united with sublime and affecting sentiment.

† Authoress of those beautiful poems originally published under the signature of Laura Maria.

‡ The harp of Æolus.

The herrings, though then in their prime, are by no means so abundant as afterwards.

About the end of August they collect from every part round the Island, towards the north point of Douglas-Bay; and here, with increasing success the fishery continues till the middle of September; when the equinoctial gales usually intimidate the fishermen, and dissipate the herrings.

The boats seldom exceed eight tons, are built with much dexterity, sail swiftly, and are easily commanded. When new they cost, including the nets, upwards of seventy or eighty guineas; but they seldom are the sole property of the fishermen. The produce of every night is divided into nine shares. Two belong to the owners of the boat; one to the proprietors of the nets; and the residue to the six fishermen. Two of these are generally seamen; and the rest, at the beginning of the fishery, come from the interior parts of the country: to which, on its close, they return supremely contented; if they have procured herrings, and the women, in their absence, cultivated potatoes, barely adequate to the maintenance of the family till next fishery. Few of the fishermen are acquainted with the anxiety attending the possession of riches. The greater part of their gains is consumed during the fishery in feasting or ebriety; and the remainder is usually consigned to quiet some importunate creditor.

Upwards of four hundred boats* compose the Manks fleet. An admiral and vice-admiral are annually elected: to the former of whom government allows 5*l.* and to the other 3*l.* for the season. Their boats are distinguished by a small flag at the top-mast, and their province is to conduct the fleet to the herring-ground†. The boats sail with the evening, and return with the morning tide. On leaving the harbour, each fisherman uncovers his head, and appears for a few moments engaged in devotion: but this, I presume, is more a relic of customary superstition, than an expression of real piety. Under the cloud of night they shoot their nets, which are buoyed up by inflated bags of dog-skin, dried in the sun and smeared over with tar. The herrings are caught by the gills; and in such abundance, that part of the nets must be frequently cut away. Many of the boats return laden with fifty, and some with seventy meazes‡. This, while it continues, occasions a very rapid influx of money into the country; a successful night's fishing being frequently estimated at 3000*l.* and sometimes amounting to 5000*l.*

Among the herrings are caught great quantities of dog-fish, called by the Manks gabboch, which prey upon the herrings, and from their strength and voracity prove very destructive to the nets. They furnish the natives with oil, and when dried resemble ling; but are seldom used except by the poorest of the inhabitants.

I have already mentioned some of the superstitions of this country; but these were in general innocent fancies. An error of that nature however prevails during the fishery, which proves highly injurious to the interests of the island. Superstition, that foe to commerce, operating on the native indolence of the Manks, influences them to sacrifice at her shrine every Saturday and Sunday evening, during the herring season; the fishermen being of opinion, that the sale of the fish caught on the one evening, and the sailing of the boats on the other, would equally profane the sabbath.

Did this regard to the sabbath proceed from a just veneration of the awful injunction of Him, who is so profusely conferring on them the blessings of the sea, it would be

* In this number are not included the smacks, brigs, &c. belonging to the island.

† During the fishery there is a penalty of 5*l.* for every gull which is killed; these birds being supposed constantly to attend the herrings.

‡ A meaze of herrings is five hundred.

pious and commendable: but it is more the offspring of fear, than of gratitude to Heaven. It arises from a tradition, that on a Sunday evening of the last century, when the boats were fishing, a tremendous gale, accompanied with thunder and lightning arose, which destroyed a great part of the fleet; while several of the boats which had fled for refuge to a neighbouring cove, were crushed to pieces by the fall of the impending precipice. Whether this actually happened, or was only a fabrication of priestcraft, I have never been able to learn. It has however proved a real calamity to the country. The natives believe it an awful instance of the wrath of Heaven, and are thereby deterred from subjecting themselves to the like vengeance. This sacrifice of two days is very injurious to the fishery. From Friday to Monday evening the shoals of herrings move to some other ground; and frequently, as soon as they are discovered, the close of the week prevents any material advantage therefrom.

Were the boats to sail on the Saturday evening, the fish would be sold on the ensuing morning; and this, in the opinion of some, might occasion a bustle inconsistent with the solemnity of the Sabbath. But what injury could be given to the most pious and enlightened mind, were the fishermen (after having on the Sabbath-day offered up to God in his temple the incense of grateful hearts) to sail with the evening tid, and gather in the blessings which Heaven, at this season so copiously pours around them?

During the fishery, the island seems to awake from its native lethargy. Douglas is a scene of great festivity. This season is a jubilee to the fishermen; and their wives and daughters come in groups from the interior parts of the country to heighten it. The Manksman shakes off his wonted sloth and melancholy, and assumes an air of gaiety and mirth. The day is passed in banqueting, and flowing cups go round; gladness smiles in every eye; the song echoes from every corner; and not unfrequently dances conclude the festivity of the night.

To a generous mind it is highly gratifying, to observe some thousands deriving life and gladness from this employ. The pleasure however diminishes on reflecting, that all this gaiety and exertion will soon be over; and that the Manksman, when he has basked, like a summer insect, for a little time in the sunshine of industry, will retire to his usual indolence and misery; to his smoky cottage, and tattered family: for, till manufactures are more generally established, he will never know either a continuance of the comforts of life, or the blessings of society.

CHAP. XVI.—*Sale of the island.—View of Trade previous, and subsequent to that Period.—Establishment of the Customs.—Present Imports.—Insular Revenue.*

DURING the civil contests in England, occasioned by the weakness and ambition of Charles the first, several persons of fortune, having sought an asylum in this island, introduced among the natives a greater flow of money. Previous to this period, their trade was chiefly transacted by an exchange of commodities; and their manner of conducting this business was not only beneficial to the community, but distinguished by its virtuous simplicity. To prevent any avaricious monopoly, four merchants were annually elected by the people to purchase foreign merchandize for the whole country. These, on the arrival of any vessel, laden with salt, pitch, iron, &c. &c. appeared with the owner of the cargo before the Governor of the island; when the value of each article was ascertained; and to the contract, then made by their commercial representatives, the country cheerfully acceded. The articles given in return were wool, hides, tallow, and other produce of the island; but if these proved inadequate to the cargo imported, the residue was then paid for in money by a general assessment.

To

To a better acquaintance with the utility of specie, this primitive mode of commerce gradually yielded; and about the beginning of the present century wholly disappeared.

The increase of the customs, and the establishment of the excise in the neighbouring kingdoms, uniting with other causes, afterwards proved highly beneficial to the trade of this country: the isle of Man thus became an important mart for those luxuries, which the prodigality or policy of the state had loaded in Britain with oppressive imposts.

Cambrics, silks, tobacco, tea, wines, spirituous liquors, &c. &c. were imported from the continent*; and on their being landed here, paid a very trifling duty to the lord†: but such were the quantities admitted, that they formed an ample revenue to him. Merchants from various countries flourished in every town of the island; which, from its vicinity to the surrounding kingdoms, and the plenitude of *unexcised* luxuries, was much resorted to, by various hords of smugglers. Besides foreign adventurers, several of the inhabitants were actually engaged in this illicit commerce. An unlimited importation of goods was legal: but every exportation of them was in defiance of the laws of the land, which, at that time, were shamefully evaded.

This traffic was certainly injurious to the island; yet many of the natives still look back with regret to that period. Individuals were certainly enriched thereby, but the body of the people were impoverished. The lands lay uncultivated, the fisheries were in a great measure neglected, and the morals of the people debauched.

Another evil attended this clandestine trade. It affected the revenue of Britain and Ireland to that degree, that it demanded the attention of the British legislature. Accordingly, in the reign of George the first‡, an act of parliament was passed, purporting, that as the commerce of Man was injurious to the interests of his Majesty's dominions, a pecuniary compensation should be granted to the lord, and the feudal sovereignty of the isle be in future annexed to the British crown. But this, from various causes, was not accomplished till the fifth year of the reign of his present Majesty§; when the royalty, with all its dignities and emoluments, (the patronage of the bishoprick excepted) was for ever re-vested in the crown of Britain: the Duke of Athol enjoying in lieu of his regalities, a grant of 70,000*l.* and a liberal annuity for the lives of himself and his Dukes.

The sale of the island spread an universal terror through the country. The bustle of commerce ceased; and every countenance indicated fear and amazement. The merchants, imagining that the treasures of their warehouses would be immediately confiscated, disposed of them greatly beneath their original value, and retired to other countries; while many of the possessors of landed property, now deeming it of little consideration, sold it to any purchaser. Consequently, some were ruined, several were injured; and a very few individuals, of greater policy and penetration, amassed by this universal alarm, an immense fortune||. But though the sale of the island was, in its im-

* According to the report of the commissioners in London, were annually imported into this island wine, brandy, &c. from France and Spain; rum and coffee from the British colonies; and East India goods from Denmark, Sweden, Holland, Hamburgh, and the Netherlands.

† Trifling as the insular duties were, the lord was frequently defrauded of them: notwithstanding this, they produced from 1754 to 1764, about 6,000*l.* annually.

‡ 1726.

§ March 17, 1765.

|| By a person who had been an eminent merchant in Ramsay I was assured, that on the sale of the island he sold fifty pipes of brandy at 2*s.* per gallon, payable by bills at three months—and before the time of payment arrived, every gallon of brandy had been re-sold, at the advanced price of 10*s.* 6*d.*

mediate consequences, thus partially injurious to the country, it has since been deemed universally beneficial; and the natives are now taught by experience to regard it as the greatest blessing.

Though the constitution of the country was in no instance affected by its reversion in the crown of Britain, the government of the island certainly was. The revenue-department was now separated from the civil establishment. A custom-house, in his Majesty's name, was erected at Douglas, and subject-offices in Peel, Castletown, and Ramsey; the establishment consisting of a receiver-general, collector, comptroller*, and some inferior officers.

On completing the sale of the island, government, at the requisition of the Duke of Athol, consented to retain every officer of his appointment, except the collector of the customs. This office was then conferred on Richard Betham, Esq. L. L. D.†; who died in 1789, and was succeeded by the present collector.

Since the establishment of the customs, the importation of foreign luxuries has been limited; and the imposts on them (though much inferior to the English duties) increased. There is however still an abundant variety. Exports may be made at Peel, Castletown, or Ramsey: but all imports of rum, tea, sugar, wine and tobacco, are only admissible at the custom-house of Douglas.

The imports of the island are numerous; and the duties various; but from every impost payable in England they are exempt†.

The oppression of excise is still unknown in this country. The duties are paid on the arrival of the goods, and they are then free from all future inspection. Foreign brandy and gin, being prohibited, may be seized by a custom-house officer; but all other articles of commerce are secure from his annoyance, unless they are detected in a clandestine exportation.

From the annual amount of the imposts arises the insular revenue. Part of this supports the civil establishment, and the residue is annually remitted to the British treasury; where it either lies dormant, or is applied to foreign purposes; although the principal harbour of the island is in § ruins, and the jail a disgrace to humanity!

* The salary of the comptroller is, exclusive of the fees, 100*l.* that of the collector, considerably more.

† Dr. Betham was father-in law to Captain Bligh, whose fortitude, amid unequalled dangers, the public have so justly admired.

‡ French wines are charged with 4*l.* per tun, and Portugal wines with 2*l.* Rum pays 2*s.* a gallon; tobacco 3*d.* per pound; black tea 6*d.* and green tea 1*s.* Soap, sugar, and silk goods are charged with an impost of 5 per cent. and other wares with 2½ ad valorem. The wines come directly from France and Portugal. The red port is greatly superior to what is generally drunk in England; and including every duty and expence, costs the importer little more than 7*d.* a bottle. Thirty thousand gallons of rum are annually permitted from England, and 10,000 from Scotland. The duty was originally only 18*d.* a gallon; but an additional 6*d.* was afterwards imposed. Tobacco and loaf-sugar are generally imported from Liverpool. Previous to 1788, great quantities of each were annually imported; but this indulgence being abused, the former was confined to 40,000*lb.* and the latter to 20 tons—a limitation more than adequate to the annual consumption of the island.

§ Every boat engaged in the herring fishery pays annually 10*s.* to the customs; which sum, with the amount of the bay fisheries and the harbour dues, is applied to the temporary repairs of the various ports in the island.

CHAP. XVII.—*Trade of the Island continued.—Exports.—Sketch of the Herring Trade.—Other Exports.—Balance of Trade.—Agriculture and Manufactures recommended.—Reflections.*

THE exports of the island are not adequate to its imports; although government, to promote a spirit of commercial industry among the Manks, has exempted from every fee and impost in Britain and Ireland, their produce and manufactures; and the importation of every article requisite for the culture of the lands, and the advancement of their manufactures and fisheries. Besides this indulgence, government has granted a bounty of 1s. a barrel on herrings designed for British consumption, and an additional 2s. 6d. when exported to a foreign market.

As herrings are at present the staple commodity of the country, I shall here give a sketch of this trade. During the fishery the price fluctuates from 2s. to 3s. a hundred; but near the close, the foreign smacks and red herring houses being supplied, it rapidly decreases to 1s. 6d. and sometimes even to 1s. They are then cured by the white herring merchants. The process is simple; and women are chiefly employed on this occasion. By girls, from nine to thirteen years of age, the herrings are carried in baskets from the boats; and on being conveyed to the herring houses are, by the more robust women, rubbed thoroughly with salt; after which they leave them to purify till next morning, when, with a layer of salt between each row of fish, they are barrelled*.

The trade is lucrative; but it ought to be considered; that a certain degree of risque is incurred: from a scarcity of fish, should the price exceed 2s. a hundred, almost all the expensive preparations for, and sanguine expectations from, the fishery are frustrated.

Those designed for red herrings are first regularly piled up with a layer of salt between each row, and for some days remain to purify. They are then washed; and, when the water is sufficiently drained from them, are fixed by the mouth on small rods, and hung up in extensive houses built for the purpose. The houses are very high: in length exceeding thirty yards, and in width about twenty. The length is divided into several spaces; and here the herring-rods are hung, reaching in rows from the roof of the house till within eight feet of the floor. The regularity of the ranks, and the lustre of the herrings, when newly hung up, make a very beautiful appearance. Underneath, are kindled several fires of the dried roots of oak, which are kept continually smoking for four or five weeks: when the herrings, being sufficiently reddened, are barrelled, and shipped for some of the Mediterranean ports; from whence the vessels return with a cargo to Liverpool, and sometimes with a part of it for the island. The master of the vessel is generally ignorant of the port for which he is destined, till he is a few leagues from Douglas. He then opens his orders; and it not unfrequently happens, that to one port many of the Manks cargoes are consigned.

Besides the herring trade, the island exports some quantities of grain, cattle, butter, bacon, lead, kelp, coarse linen, and spun cotton. But notwithstanding the amount of

* A barrel contains about 600, which, including every expence, does not cost the curer, when landed in the English market, more than 12s. while the lowest sum it will command there is 1l. 1s. and frequently 1l. 5s.

these, and the annual influx of wealth from the fishery, the balance of trade is against the island: and should the fishery considerably decline, from the present languishing state of manufactures, and the too great neglect of agriculture, this country would be almost ruined.

Many circumstances unite to favour the establishment of manufactures, and the further increase of agriculture in the island. The land is exempt from taxation; the necessaries and comforts of life are abundant; the country would supply several manufacturing materials; while for the greater part of the produce of the land, and many of the manufactures, there would be an immediate demand at home; and for the residue an easy conveyance (from the central situation of the island,) to various markets abroad.

Thus, the balance of trade, which is now against the country, would be in its favour; and a permanent fountain of wealth opened in its centre, which, from the influx of the fishery, would annually over-flow. But this demands a spirit of enterprize and activity, hostile to the native indolence of the Manks: many of whom sacrifice every consideration to the pursuit of the fishery; and when this terminates, retire to their clay-built cottages; where, surrounded by a squalid and tattered family, they slumber out the residue of the year in sloth and misery*.

Providence has given a liberal supply of the wealth of the sea to this island, and the acquisition of this, during the season, ought to be prosecuted with avidity; but the remainder of the year should not be consumed in indolence. A society for establishing manufactures, and promoting a more general culture of the lands, would to this country be a most benevolent institution. The Mankisman would then be roused from his lethargy; he and his family amply participate of the comforts of life; the blessings of society increase; and, although the fishery should decline, these new channels of wealth would remain unexhausted.

CHAP. XVIII.—*General Character of the Manks.—Their Indolence.—Melancholy.—Superstition.—Disregard of Science.—Clerical Character.—Poverty of Genius and of Public Spirit among the Manks.—Their Attention to private Charity.*

THIS account of the Isle of Man I shall now conclude with a general character of the natives; divesting myself of every prejudice, and only solicitous "to extenuate nothing, nor set down aught in malice."

Indolence is a prominent feature of the Manks character; otherwise the lands would be more universally cultivated, and manufactures more generally established. From whatever causes this hereditary inactivity may spring I will not presume to say; but it certainly derives new influence from the quiet of the lonely vales and mountainous recesses, to which the greater part of the inhabitants are accustomed from their childhood.

To a contemplative mind, solitude is a fountain of the sublimest enjoyments: operating however on an inert disposition, it only cherishes a sombrous melancholy; which, by enervating the mind, renders it a slave to every superstition; or what is still more unfortunate, eradicates every vestige of reason.

In support of this observation, I need only refer to some of the superstitious delusions of the natives; and to the harmless, but sullen lunatics, who so frequently distress the feeling mind in this country.

* The fishery commences in July, and usually terminates with the autumnal equinox. Consequently nine months of the year are by many of the Manks passed in inactivity.

To a gloomy imagination thus nourished by indolence and solitude, perhaps may be imputed the general influence of Methodism in the island. Being more ambitious to astonish the ignorant, by thundering forth the terrors of the law, than to captivate them, by displaying the mild beauty of the gospel, Methodism easily assimilates with gloomy minds; heightens native melancholy by religious terrors; and rapidly establishes over the weak and superstitious an unlimited controul.

The inhabitants of the towns are, however, in some degree, exempt from these evils. Society promotes activity; and activity dispels from the mind the cloud of superstition. Men, as they become more social, become more cheerful and enlightened.

Among the higher classes of the Manks are some of polished manners, liberal minds, and real hospitality; but there are many more who, presuming on the wealth they have amassed, are haughty in their deportment, and illiberal in their prejudices.

The middle ranks have a greater air of politeness and hospitality; yet they have been frequently esteemed shrewd, selfish, insincere, and litigious. The lower classes are like the vulgar in every country, only perhaps a little more inert and ignorant. They know little of the enjoyments of life; many of them consuming the greater part of the year in listless stupidity. Their habitations are miserable huts; their attire mean*, and their common diet thin barley cakes, or herrings and potatoes, with a beverage of milk and water. Being however of an athletic frame, they brave these hardships; and from the salubrity of the country, many of them arrive at a great age†.

The Manks are generally of a pensive physiognomy, seldom expressive of vivacity, or sublimity of mind. Some of the women however are beautiful; and a few of them not unacquainted with female accomplishments.

The liberal arts have few votaries in this country. Science is disregarded; and polite literature little cultivated. Their parochial clergy are more respectable for their virtues, than eminent for learning or genius. They are seldom distinguished by an university education; but at a clerical seminary in Castletown‡, imbibe the elements of theology and classical lore. Their livings seldom exceed 100l. and are never inferior to 50l. yet, on this income they live contented and happy.

The solitude of the country, it may be presumed, would be favourable to the pursuits of philosophy or literature; and its picturesque and romantic scenery to the indulgence of the imagination; yet the isle of Man has not produced a person known in the neighbouring kingdoms, either by the vigour of intellect, or the fire of genius.

The Manks are like the Swiss and Highlanders, warmly attached to their native vales and mountains; tenacious of their ancient customs; and jealous of their hereditary rights and privileges. They have however, few monuments of public spirit.

* The poorer sort of the men usually wear a kind of sandal, which they call Kerranes, made of untanned leather, cross-laced from the toe to the upper part of the instep, and gathered about the ankle.

† In summer the air is cooled by the sea breezes; the winter is as mild as in the same latitude of the neighbouring countries; and though fogs are rather frequent, they do not appear to be injurious to the health of the inhabitants. Sea-bathing is peculiarly delightful in this island; the water being so lucid and pure, that the fine sandy bottom may be seen at a great depth.

‡ To bishop Barrow, the Manks clergy are eminently indebted. Besides several other instances of his beneficence to them, he founded, by donations which he collected in England, this academy; and by his own private charity, purchased two estates for the support of such young persons as should be designed for the ministry.

The House of Keys is a mean building; the public jail a dungeon; and the principal harbour almost in ruins; while in the whole island there is no public establishment for sheltering the destitute, protecting the insane, restoring the sick, or supporting the poor. Yet in this country *private* charity is liberal. In the herring season the benevolence of the fishermen feeds the poor*; and during the residue of the year, they are supported by the weekly generosity of a few individuals. A sympathy for the distresses of others has been distinguished by Juvenal† as “the highest ornament of our nature;” and Charity by the sacred writers has been accounted the completion of human virtue.

I shall therefore conclude this sketch of the general character of the Manks with observing, that, notwithstanding several imperfections which a regard to truth, unaffected with prejudice, has forced me to point out, this country is distinguished, though not by public, by what is equally noble, private charity. And a higher honour can scarcely be inherited by a nation; for in the lustre which benevolence throws over the general character, a generous mind forgets every blemish and imperfection.

A REVIEW OF THE MANKS HISTORY.

CHAP. I.—*A Review of the Manks History, from the Government of the Druids, to the Norwegian Conquest.*

TO trace the origin of nations, to elucidate their progress from barbarity to civilization, and, in a page illumined with the flame of genius, to give immortality to their patriots and heroes, is the office of the historic muse: but this dignity not corresponding with my present design, I shall promise little more than a chronological view of the kings of Man; with a sketch of the characters of those, rendered conspicuous by their crimes, or virtues.

The Isle of Man was known to the ancients by various names. Cæsar distinguishes it by that of Mona‡. Ptolemy calls it Monœda, or the more remote Mona; Pliny Monabia, and others Eubonia. Buchanan styles it Mana, the natives Manning, and the English Man; which appellation, bishop Wilson derives from the Saxon word *Manng* §; this island being literally *among* the neighbouring kingdoms.

The original inhabitants most probably migrated from Britain; and as their chief employment was hunting, they lived in tribes, and their primitive government was patriarchal. To this form succeeded the civil and religious institutions of the Druids; a race of sacred and venerable legislators, who, after the general massacre of their brethren in Anglesea, reigned over the affections of the natives of Mona, till the close of the

* The Manks have the following generous proverb:

“Tra ta yn derrey Vought cooney lesh hought elley ta see hene garaghtee:” When one poor man relieves another, God himself rejoices at it; or, as it is in the original, laughs outright.

† ————— Mollissima corda

Humano generi dare se Natura fatetur,

Quæ lacrymas dedit, hæc nostri pars optima sensus. SAT. XV.

‡ The Mona of Tacitus is Anglesea.

§ Signifying *among*.

fourth century; when the light of Christianity penetrating the gloom of their umbrageous oaks, their admirable fabric of religion and morality gradually yielded to a system, which, in some of its most important doctrines, resembled, yet infinitely surpassed, their own*.

By embracing Christianity, the legislative dignity of the Druids was not immediately affected†; for according to the Manks tradition they and their descendants continued, for several years, the teachers and rulers of the people‡. But at length an irruption of northern barbarians, spreading anarchy and devastation through the country, overthrew their dominion: and a long period ensued, in which the history of this island is involved in darkness and fable, till the descent of

ORRY,

in the tenth century.

This prince was of the Danish line, and after subduing the Orcades and Hebrides, at last established his throne in Mona. Though he assumed the government by violence, his reign was undisturbed by any domestic commotion: and to his polity the Manks are indebted for the origin of their Constitutional Representatives; who for several succeeding ages sometimes feebly opposed, but more frequently sanctioned regal oppression. After a long reign, Orry was succeeded by his son,

GUTTRED:

A prince who devoted his attention to the welfare of his subjects: he erected the noble relic of Danish architecture, Castle-Rushen; and in that durable monument of his regal grandeur lies obscurely buried.

The third prince of the Danish line was

REGINALD,

who sacrificed the dignity of his character to lust and intemperance. His vices accelerated his ruin: for having seduced a lady whose brothers were soldiers of fortune, they revenged her dishonour by the death of her seducer. On this event,

OLAVE,

having assumed the crown without the approbation of the King of Denmark, was with much apparent friendship invited to his court: but on his arrival was arraigned, and executed as a traitor to the supremacy of the Danish throne. His brother

OLAIN,

succeeded him, who, after an equitable reign, died in Ireland, and had for his successor

ALLEN;

whose memory has been branded with every crime. He was poisoned by his governor, and most probably succeeded by

MACON;

a gallant prince, who, for refusing homage to the English crown, was deprived of the diadem of the isles. It was however soon afterwards restored to him with a plenitude of honour. He was created by the English monarch, admiral of a numerous fleet, with which he annually circumnavigated the British isles; to guard them from the ra-

* See Chap. XII.

† During this period, the isle of Man, according to Boetius and other writers, was the fountain of all pure learning; the residence of the Muses; and a literary retirement for the heirs of the crown of Scotland. From this it may be presumed that the erudition, genius, and virtue of the Druids for some ages survived their religious establishment in this country.

‡ Ninnius mentions the invasion of this island by one Binlè a Scot; and other writers its reduction by Edwin, king of Northumberland; but these were temporary ravages, and no conquests.

pine and barbarity of the Scandinavian pirates, who, at this period, were a terror to the neighbouring kingdoms. It is uncertain how long he reigned, or by whom he was succeeded: but in the eleventh century,

GODRED CROVAN,

a Norwegian hero, having accompanied his king in the invasion of England, and being there defeated, sought an asylum in this island, where he was hospitably received by the natives. The reigning prince of Man at this period was Godred the son of Syrric, who from his cowardice, barbarity, and injustice, became odious to his subjects. With a penetrating eye Godred Crovan observed the discontents of the people; and animated by regal ambition, formed the daring project of dethroning the king. But this ambitious plan he concealed from the inhabitants, till he should be invested with force sufficient to command success. To obtain this, he withdrew to his native country; and arming a numerous fleet, with great expedition returned to this island. In his absence the tyrant died, and

FINGAL,

his son, was seated on the throne; from whose youth, mildness, and generosity, the Manks promised themselves many blessings. The virtues of this prince, inspiring his subjects with heroic loyalty, for some time frustrated the hopes of the invader; who, being twice repulsed, effected by stratagem what he could not accomplish by violence. In a dark night he concealed in a wood, under a hill near Ramsay, three hundred of his troops; and on the morning landed the remainder of his forces; which, being opposed by the Manks with their usual heroism, were again almost vanquished. But in the moment of supposed victory Godred vigorously renewing the combat, the troops that formed the ambuscade now burst upon the rear of the Manks army. A well-disputed conflict ensued: and at length the tide of conquest turned against the Manks. Their king with the prime of his nobility fell in the battle, and the residue yielded to the generosity of the conqueror.

CHAP. II.—*A Review of the Manks history, from the Norwegian conquest to the Death of Godred the Son of Olave.*

ON the day after the battle, (A. D. 1066)* Godred assembling his army, submitted to their choice, either to divide the lands among themselves, and reside here; or to plunder the island, and return to their own country. Many of the soldiers, eager to pillage those whom they had conquered, preferred the latter alternative; and enriching themselves by rapine, returned home with the spoils their ferocity had acquired. But others of greater spirit and policy being desirous of sharing in a foreign land, the fortunes of a chief who had led them to conquest, he divided among them the south department of the island; while the northern division he granted to the natives, on express condition, that no man should ever claim any inheritance. Thus, Godred, having conquered, soon began to enslave the people.

Tyrants are ever suspicious of their subjects; and as they know that peace is favourable to reflection, and reflection to liberty, they usually precipitate them into a foreign war; thereby, confirming oppression at home, and spreading devastation in other countries. With this policy (of which our modern princes seem so ambitious) Godred

* At this period commences the *Chronicon Manniæ*, which terminates with the Scottish conquest. It was written by the monks of Rushen-Abbey, and published by Camden in his *Britannia*. Its authenticity being corroborated by various testimonies, I have, with a few deviations, followed the outlines of it in this and the subsequent chapter.

was not unacquainted. Observing a spirit of discontent rising among his subjects, he formed the young and vigorous into a fine army, with which he successfully invaded Dublin, and then returned to the island, loaden with the spoils of conquest. The western Scots having however checked him in his career of victory, Godred equipped a considerable fleet to resent these hostilities. He awed a part of Scotland, and subdued the Hebrides: but the honour acquired by these new victories he did not long enjoy; for he soon after died in one of those islands which had lately submitted to him.

He was majestic in his person; noble in his aspect; and of a bold, penetrating, and politic genius. To the feelings of mercy he was not wholly insensible; but the principles of justice he accounted trifles beneath the regard and dignity of one, who, by his heroism and policy, had seated himself on a foreign throne.

Godred, (A. D. 1082,) was succeeded by his eldest son,

LAGMAN;

who having murdered his brother Harold, on suspicion of promoting a rebellion among the soldiery, resigned his crown for the cross; and, according to the devotional absurdity of those ages, undertook a pilgrimage to the Holy Land, as an expiation for his fraternal barbarity. He died at Jerusalem; (A. D. 1089,) and his youngest brother,

OLAVE,

the third son of Godred the conqueror, being then very young, the nobility of the isles sent to Murcard O'Brian, King of Ireland, soliciting him to appoint some person of royal descent, as regent of the kingdom during Olave's minority. In compliance with their request, the king sent Donald Tade, who, for his oppression and barbarity, was soon expelled the island by an indignant people. Olave, their natural prince, was then a youth in the court of Henry the First: and the chiefs of the isles being anxious to seat on the throne a man of mature abilities, elected Mac Manis*, whose merit amply sanctioned their choice. From the pride and jealousy of Earl Outher, a conspiracy was however, (A. D. 1098,) formed against him; and in the combat which it occasioned, both the prince and conspirator, with many of their partizans, were slain. By this civil contest the kingdom being considerably weakened, it became an easy prey to Magnus, King of Norway; who, influenced by an absurd superstition, resigned his own crown, and spread havock and rapine through the neighbouring countries. He reigned for six years in this island; but in attempting the reduction of Ireland, he was surrounded by the natives, and with the greater part of his followers, after fighting with astonishing valour, was at length slain.

Upon his death, (A. D. 1102) the nobility of the isles sent a solemn and splendid embassy to Olave, their hereditary prince; who to youth and beauty united a graceful deportment, with a gallant and generous mind. Being esteemed by the surrounding princes, and beloved by his own subjects, his reign for many years was just, tranquil, and happy†. But at length resolving to visit the King of Norway, (probably with the intention of doing homage for his crown) on his return, he found his kingdom

* According to some authors his name was Mac Marus.

† During this tranquillity, he reformed the laws, and humanized the manners of his subjects. He was also liberal to the clergy. The Abbey of Rushen, founded by Mac Manis, he richly endowed in 1134, and gave to Evan, Abbot of Furness, as a seminary for the church of the isles; the revenue of which he divided into three portions. One third of the tythes was appropriated to the maintenance of the bishop; the second portion to the Abbey of Rushen; and the residue to the secular clergy.

agitated

agitated by the violence and intrigues of his three nephews, who had now a considerable army at their command. Being perhaps more anxious for the peace and welfare of his subjects, than the maintenance of his regal dignity, Olave proposed an accommodation with his nephews. The two armies accordingly encamped near Ramsay, at a little distance from each other. Between the armies, the king, the princes, and their respective nobility assembled. During their deliberation, Reginald, one of the princes, pretending to salute the king, with one blow of his battle-axe beheaded him; while this detestable act was only a signal for the general slaughter of his nobility, and the most ferocious oppression of his subjects.

But the crimes of these atrocious brothers did not elude the vengeance they merited: for

GODRED,

the son of Olave, in 1143, returning from the Norwegian court where he had been left by his father, the whole island spontaneously submitted to him; and with unanimous consent, delivered to his vengeance the three sons of Harold: two of whom were deprived of their eyes, and the murderer of the king publicly executed. When Godred assumed the government of his kingdom, he was in the bloom of youth and beauty; majestic in his stature; magnanimous in his sentiments; and heroic in his actions. These graces, uniting with a remembrance of his father's virtues, gained the adoration of his own subjects, and the admiration of the neighbouring kingdoms. From the celebrity of his virtue and heroism, the people of Dublin and the nobility of the province of Leinster elected him their king. But this singular honour involved him in various contests, and subjected him to future misfortunes. Murchard, King of Ireland opposed him; but Godred, having routed the enemy, seated himself on the throne to which he had been raised by the suffrages of the people. His absence however occasioned discontents among his hereditary subjects; which were fomented by the factious and turbulent. To calm these he returned to Man: and having severely punished some of the disaffected; Thorfinus, a subtle, sullen, and ferocious chief, fled to Summerled, Thane of Argyle, and brother-in-law to Godred. This bold and ambitious prince was soon instigated by Thorfinus, to invade the western isles, which he soon reduced. In the mean time, Godred equipped a fleet of eighty vessels, and engaged him at sea. A dreadful conflict ensued; which terminating in a doubtful victory, occasioned a division of the kingdom of the isles. Godred retained Man; and the other islands were ceded to Summerled. However, in 1158, Summerled, presuming on the factions and discontents which still existed among the natives, invaded and subdued Man. The King escaped to Norway, and Summerled with much ferocity oppressed those whom he had conquered. His ambition increasing with his success, he projected the reduction of Scotland; but in attempting to land his forces he was vanquished by a small body of the inhabitants, and with his son and the greater part of his army was sacrificed to their just vengeance.

Freed from the tyranny of this usurper, the nobility and people of the isles fondly remembered the virtues of their hereditary prince. His exile and sufferings had endeared him to the loyal; and from the disaffected had obliterated the remembrance of every injury. While the esteem of the people was thus directed towards Godred, the kingdom of the isles was invaded by his illegitimate brother, Reginald. The Manks with much bravery opposed his forces; but through the treachery of one of their leaders were defeated. However, on the fourth day after the battle, Godred with a
numerous

numerous army arrived from Norway; and having vanquished Reginald, was received by his subjects with the most generous and loyal affection.

After his re-establishment on the throne, he visited the more remote parts of his kingdom: and on his return to Man, (the usual residence of the kings of the isles) he devoted the residue of his reign to the welfare of his subjects*; until 1187, when he died justly revered and lamented by them.

CHAP. III.—*A Review of the Manks History, from the Death of Godred the Son of Olave, to the Scottish Conquest.*

THE long and happy tranquillity which the Manks enjoyed, under the government of Godred the son of Olave, was soon disturbed by the contests of his sons for the diadem of the isles.

REGINALD,

the eldest, being illegitimate, Olave was elected king: but as the former was of a mature age, and of a bold, subtle, and politic genius, he soon triumphed over his younger brother. The usurper then banished the young prince to the isle of Lewis; among the barren solitudes of which he and his faithful adherents were almost famished. From misfortune the mind sometimes derives new vigour. Olave, instead of yielding to increasing hardships, was ambitious of combating them. He returned to Man, and boldly remonstrated with Reginald; but the tyrant, so far from mitigating, heightened his sufferings. The prince was delivered as a captive to the king of Scotland; and by his severity was for seven years imprisoned and loaded with chains. On the death of that Monarch he was liberated: and being supported by several of the nobility of the isles, he again returned to Man: and soon afterwards obtained a moiety of the kingdom. Reginald retained the government of Man, and part of the western isles was ceded to the younger brother. The pride of the usurper being however severely wounded by this division of the isles, he attempted again to subject them to his dominion: but unable to achieve this act of injustice, he sailed for Scotland to solicit the assistance of the Lord of Galloway. Emboldened by the absence, and impatient of the barbarity and oppression of Reginald, the Manks invited

OLAVE

to the throne; who, on his return, was welcomed by the people with reiterated shouts of heart-felt joy.

Reginald, thus exiled from his kingdom by the voice of the nation, visited the court of England; and to recover his crown, proffered homage to King John, and submission to the pope. Relying on their protection, and assisted by the Lord of Galloway and the Earl of Athol, he conducted a ferocious army to desolate a country, from which his crimes had expelled him. Olave being then absent in the more remote isles, accompanied by the flower of his nobility and soldiery; the isle of Man was thus exposed to the inhumanities of a tyrant, glowing with revenge, and to the lust and brutality of his barbarous army. Having for the present satiated his vengeance, by murdering the men, ravishing the women, burning the churches, &c. &c. he fled from the just resentment and indignation of his brother, who speedily returned to save his kingdom from utter devastation. However, in the ensuing winter, Reginald again returned with a few vessels, and at midnight burnt all the shipping belonging to Olave

* On the celebration of his marriage with Fingala, a descendant of the Royal Family of Ireland, Godred endowed a small plantation of the Cistercian order at Mirescoge; (conjectured to be Balamona in Christ Kirk Lez-Ayre) the monks of which were afterwards incorporated with those of Rushen.

and the nobility of the isles, which was then lying at anchor under Peel-castle. He then sailed to Derby-haven, and, pretending to solicit reconciliation with his brother, by his bold demeanour and subtle insinuations, seduced many of the inhabitants from their loyalty to him. Notwithstanding this defection of many of his subjects, the men of the northern division were determined to conquer, or die, with Olave. A civil war thus begun, which was terminated by a dreadful combat near the site of the Tynwald. Reginald fell in the battle: and probably over the relics of him and his followers that noble tumulus (afterwards distinguished as the throne of legislation to the kingdom of Man) was reared by his pious brother.

Thus fell the tyrant Reginald, whose abilities were great, but his vices greater. As a prince he was brave and politic; as a king cruel and oppressive; as an exile intrepid and adventurous; and as a conqueror inhumanly atrocious. His claim to real valour is greatly diminished by his voluntary homage to John, King of England, and his pusillanimous submission to the Pope. Perhaps in comparing his character with that of John, his cotemporary, there may appear a great similitude. Both princes were treacherous, subtle, and adventurous. The English monarch gained the crown by the murder of his nephew: and the Manks prince by the exile of his brother: and as they obtained the government by injustice so they lost it by oppression. Both offended the clergy; insulted the nobility; and violated the rights and possessions of the people. Both annihilated their regal dignity by submission to the pope; and both have now, with great justice, been consigned to perpetual infamy.

After the death of Reginald, Olave enjoyed some years of prosperous tranquillity revered and beloved by his subjects*. He died at Peel-castle, in 1237, and was succeeded by his son,

HAROLD;

a youth whose personal and mental accomplishments recommended him to the esteem and affection of his subjects. Soon after his accession he sailed to Norway, and paid homage to that monarch for the diadem of the isles. Having thus acknowledged his dependence on the Norwegian crown, he was solicitous to promote the security and happiness of his kingdom, by forming alliance with the neighbouring princes. By Henry the Third he was invited into England; and so highly was he esteemed by that Monarch, that he conferred on him the honour of knighthood. Soon after, he received an invitation from Haco, King of Norway; and in his court was entertained with splendid festivity; while to crown the honours thus conferred upon him, he married the lovely daughter of the Norwegian monarch. But how fleeting is human happiness! Returning to the kingdom of Man, with his young and beautiful princess, attended by a numerous train of nobility of both sexes, they perished by shipwreck on the coast of Redland! This prince was succeeded, in 1249, by his brother,

REGINALD;

who was soon after sacrificed to the revenge of the Knight Ivar, as more fully narrated in the historical account of Rushen-abbey†. Reginald's successor was his brother,

MAGNUS;

who being raised to the throne by the voice of the nation, was confirmed thereon by the King of Norway. Magnus was the last prince of the Norwegian line in Mona.

* For defending the sea-coast, Henry the Third, in 1236, granted Olave 40 marks, 100 quarters of corn, and five tuns of wine annually; so long as he should perform that service. As the power of the Norwegian crown began to decline, the Scotch seemed to have meditated a descent on the isles; which probably forced the kings at this period to solicit the protection of England.

† See Chap. VII. of the Tour.

He died in 1265, and was buried in the abbey church of Rushen; which some years before, Richard, Bishop of the isles, at the command of Magnus, had dedicated to the blessed Virgin.

From the beginning of the tenth century, to the death of Magnus, the kingdom of Man (to which were usually annexed the Western Isles of Scotland) was governed by a race of Danish or Norwegian Princes; chiefly subject to the homage, and frequently to the controul, of the crown of Norway. But the period had now arrived, when these isles should submit to another conqueror.

Norway for five hundred years had spread terror and devastation through Europe: had given Dukes to Normandy; Kings to Sicily and Man; and Conquerors to England. But, by these foreign conquests and establishments, her real strength was so exhausted, that she soon yielded to the more powerful kingdom of Denmark. Alexander the third, King of Scotland, an active and politic Prince, soon regained the Hebrides*, which had formerly been wrested from his ancestors by the Norwegian arms: and Mona, no longer protected by the crown of Norway, in 1270, increased the honours of his conquest†.

CHAP. IV.—*A Review of the Manks History, from the Scottish Conquest to the Accession of the House of Stanley.*

ALEXANDER having subdued the ancient kingdom of Man, submitted it to be governed by Thanes or Lieutenants; against whose tyranny the natives struggled for several years. At length, impelled by their distresses, they rose, determined either to exterminate the Scots, or perish in the attempt. They were however restrained from this resolution by the influence of their bishop; who shuddering at such a general effusion of blood, proposed to decide the future fate of the country by a combat of select warriors. The Scots being elated by their former success, and the Manks fired with that enthusiasm which the love of liberty ever inspires, both parties eagerly assented. Thirty heroes were selected from each nation: a vale was appointed for the lists; and on the opposite mountains were ranged the two nations, anxious spectators of the valour of the combatants. The engagement commenced about three hours before noon; and with various success continued till sunset, when the last of the Manks warriors fell. Astonishing feats of heroism were displayed on each side: the Scots obtained the victory; but their Thane was pressed to death by the multitude, and 25 of their combatants were slain‡.

The natives thus finding every effort to restore their ancient government frustrated, reluctantly bowed their necks to the rigorous yoke of the Scottish monarch. The prudence and generosity of Maurice Okerfair§, and the mildness of his successor, for a few

* To secure by policy, what he had obtained by conquest, Alexander engaged to give Magnus, then King of Norway, 4000 marks for renouncing all title to the dominion of the isles; besides a sum of 100 marks to be paid annually, by himself and his successors for ever, in the church of St. Magnus in the Orkneys.

† According to some traditions, Ivar, favoured by the widow of Magnus, assumed the government of Man; and after opposing with great heroism the Scottish invasion, fell with 537 gallant warriors, who scorned to survive the liberty of their country.

‡ From this combat probably arose an ancient law in this island, for deciding controversies by prowess; which was prudently abolished in 1429.

§ He attempted to extinguish the animosities of the two nations, by commanding 30 intermarriages to be celebrated in one day.

years mitigated their oppression : but the manks were soon again subjected to the controul of masters less politic and merciful, under the rod of whose power their sufferings increased. With regret they looked back to the warlike dignity of their hereditary kings ; and now highly prized even the small portion of freedom they sometimes enjoyed under them. Remembrance of past happiness heightened their present wretchedness. The martial genius which had animated them to repel the invader at home, or achieve conquests abroad, was no longer terrible. The virtues of the people gradually degenerated ; till at length, by the tyranny of their new conquerors, the Manks nation sunk into a race of sullen and indolent slaves *.

The Scottish monarchy preserved her conquest of the Hebrides ; but the isle of Man was, after various contests, finally wrested from her by the English arms. Sir William Montacute, an affable and generous hero, who had married a descendant of Godred Crovan, being furnished, by Edward the Third, with an army and navy to prosecute his lady's right, soon reduced the island ; and, by command of the English monarch, in 1344, was crowned King of Man. But Montacute did not long retain this honour : his pecuniary exigencies compelling him to mortgage his kingdom to Anthony Beck, Bishop of Durham ; a subtle and avaricious bigot, who soon after obtained a grant of the island from Richard the second. On this prelate's decease, the kingdom of Man returned to Montacute, now created Earl of Salisbury ; who soon after sold it to Sir William Scroop, chamberlain to the King. Scroop was an artful sycophant of Richard the second ; and to gratify his own avarice and ambition, deluded his sovereign into those errors, which soon terminated in the ruin of both †. Richard's fate is well known. Scroop, on Henry's assumption of the crown of England, was beheaded ; and the Isle of Man was then granted by that monarch to Percy, Earl of Northumberland, and his heirs ; on condition that they should carry on their left shoulder, at the coronation of the English monarchs, the sword with which Henry was girt when he entered England. To the power and influence of Percy, Henry was considerably indebted for the crown he had assumed. His services merited the gratitude of the King : but the honours he obtained, being either inferior to his merit or ambition, he boldly attempted to shake the throne, which he had so zealously contributed to establish. The vigilance and policy of Henry frustrated his perfidy : while the just resentment of the monarch deprived him of this ample domain.

The Isle of Man was then, in the sixth year of the same reign, conferred on

SIR JOHN STANLEY

for life : and soon afterwards, (A. D. 1406,) he enjoyed a new and ample grant ‡, which extended to his heirs and successors ; “to be held of the crown of England by *liege homage*, and the service of rendering to the English monarch, two falcons on their coronation.”

By this liberality of Henry the fourth, Sir John Stanley and his descendants obtained a plenitude of regal power and dignity. Nor was this æra inauspicious to the Manks

* This degeneracy is not peculiar to the Manks nation. When the divine flame of liberty enlightened and animated Greece, her sons were accounted beings of a superior rank to the rest of mankind : but when the sun of freedom visited other climes, science, genius, and virtue expired in that country ; and the descendants of those great men sunk into the most abject slavery. Even at this day, they are only distinguished from the hordes of slaves who surround the Turkish throne, by a baser servility.

† For opposing the despotic measures of Richard the second, the Earl of Warwick was condemned to perpetual imprisonment in this island.

‡ This grant contained the royalties and manerial rights of the isle, as amply as any former lord had enjoyed them ; with the patronage of the bishoprick, and the advowson of all other ecclesiastical benefices.

nation. It does not present a gloomy picture of the turbulence of heroes, or the devastation of conquerors: but a record of the people, limiting the prerogative of their kings; combating the despotism of their governors; and establishing a form of legislation, which, notwithstanding its imperfections, is to this day revered as the sacred constitution of the country.

CHAP. V.—*A Review of the Manks History, from the Accession of the House of Stanley to the Revestment of the Royalty of the Isle in the British Crown.*

BEFORE I proceed to enumerate the princes of the Stanley line, it may not be improper to observe, that their personal history, except in a few instances, is unconnected with the public transactions of the island. Being subjects of England, they generally resided in that country; and so long as their lieutenants remitted the revenues of the kingdom, they supinely acquiesced in their administration. For more than three centuries this family enjoyed the regal government of Man; yet in so long a period few of them possessed the ambition or generosity to visit their subjects: and when they conferred this honour, either their interests in the island were threatened, or their personal safety in England endangered.

Sir John Stanley, on whom the munificence of Henry the fourth had conferred the royalty of this island, died in 1414; and was succeeded by his son,

SIR JOHN STANLEY.

a man of politic and penetrating genius. During the reign of his predecessor, the island paid him homage as heir-apparent; and after his father's decease, the anarchy of the state, and the discontents of his new subjects, again forced him to visit his kingdom. Previous to this period, the laws of the island resided in the breasts of their Deemsters. Under the pretext of witnessing the promulgation of these, but with the real design of asserting his prerogative, and intimidating the vulgar by a display of majesty, he convened, in 1417, the whole body of the people at the Tynwald*. As King of Man he was invested with the insignia of royalty. The diadem flamed on his brow; and the regal mantle flowed in all its splendour. On the summit of the mount was placed a chair of state, canopied with crimson velvet, and richly embroidered with gold. In this chair he was enthroned; his face fronting the east, and a sword in his hand pointed towards Heaven. His Deemsters sat before him; and on the highest circle his Barons and beneficed men: on the middle circle were seated the twenty-four Keys, then stiled "the worthiest men in the land;" and on the lowest circle the Knights, Esquires, and Yeomen; while the commons stood without the circuit of the hill, with three clerks in their surplices. The hill was guarded† by the coroners and moars, armed with their swords and axes; and a proclamation was issued, by the coroner of Glanfaba, denouncing those, who should in the time of Tynwald murmur in the King's presence. Accordingly, the people waited with an awful silence the future fate of their nation, in the promulgation of those laws which had for so many ages been industriously concealed from them. The venerable Deemsters then rising, with an audible voice, alternately published to this assembly several laws; which, though more an assertion of the King's prerogative, than a declaration of the rights of his subjects, were received by the people with reiterated acclamations.

Having thus, as he fondly imagined, established his prerogative on a permanent basis, he returned to England: and the people no longer dazzled, or intimidated by the

* See Chap. XI. of the Tour.

† Tynwald is derived from the Danish words Ting, a Court of Justice; and Wald, fenced.

splendour

splendour of royalty, revolted against the laws they had so recently accepted. Their turbulence once more compelled him to visit his kingdom. On his arrival, another convention was summoned in 1422 at the Tynwald; and in the same year a third assembly of the people was appointed at Castle-Rushen. The laws which were then framed, by a bolder assertion and extension of prerogative, seemed solely intended to awe the nation into greater subjection. These he commanded to be recorded; and flattering himself that he had now subdued, what he deemed, the presumption of the people, again hastened to England.

Among other acts it was in the last assembly decreed, that the election of the twenty-four Keys, or representatives of the nation, was solely dependant on the "will and pleasure" of the king. But this being deemed an encroachment on the ancient constitution of the country, raised such discontent and commotion, that Henry Byron, Lieutenant of the isle, judged it prudent to summon, in 1430, a fourth convention at the Tynwald. On this memorable occasion, thirty-six freeholders, who had been previously elected by the people, were by the nation presented to the governor: and from this number he selected twenty-four; being four men from every sheading or hundred of the island. Sir John Stanley was then in England, but he soon afterwards confirmed this restoration of the house of Keys to their ancient independence.

He died about the year 1441, and was succeeded by his son,

THOMAS;

whom Henry the sixth created baron Stanley. He died in 1460: and his son and successor,

THOMAS,

received an increase to the honours of his family; being created Earl of Derby by Henry the seventh. On his decease, in 1504, his grandson,

THOMAS,

succeeded to all his hereditary honours: he was the second Earl of Derby, and of the Stanley line, the fifth King of Man. However, to shelter himself from the jealous ambition of Henry the Eighth, he resigned the regal title: and though his successors imitated his policy, they enjoyed, as lords of the isle, all the power and dignity of princes. Thomas, dying in 1521, was succeeded by his son,

EDWARD;

in whose reign the bishoprick of Sodor and Man, formerly united to the Province of Canterbury, was rendered subject to the metropolitanical jurisdiction of York. His son and successor,

HENRY,

visited the island about the year 1592; and having there calmed some commotions of his subjects, he returned to England where he soon afterwards died.

His eldest son,

FERDINAND,

did not long enjoy the wealth and honours he inherited from his father; being poisoned, in 1594, by one of his domestics.

WILLIAM,

the younger brother, being abroad when he died, his right to inherit the island was disputed by Ferdinand's daughters; and during the tedious contest that ensued, the government of Man was committed, by Queen Elizabeth, to Sir Thomas Gerard. At length the right of inheritance being decided, by the common law of England, in favour of the heirs general; William judged it prudent, by a pecuniary compensation, to satisfy their demands. Having accomplished this, he soon after obtained from James the first

a new

a new grant of the isle of Man; expressed in terms equally liberal with that which Henry the fourth had conferred on his ancestors: and this ample grant he had the policy and interest to have confirmed, to him and his heirs, by an act of parliament. However, on the death of his lady, he resigned all his possession to his son, James; reserving only an annual competency, with which he retired to a pleasant villa on the banks of the Dee; where he passed the evening of his age in those tranquil enjoyments, which a contemplative mind (particularly in the decline of life) is ever disposed to derive from solitude.

He died in 1642, and was succeeded by

JAMES,

the seventh Earl of Derby, and of the Stanley family the tenth Lord of Man. This nobleman distinguished himself by an enthusiastic ardour to support Charles the first; when that weak and misguided Prince attempted, with the arm of prerogative, to destroy the sacred rights of mankind. Like his sovereign, the Earl of Derby fell a sacrifice to the just resentment of the people. But the recital of his valour and sufferings, the magnanimity of his lady *, and the neglect and ingratitude † his family experienced from Charles the second, I shall leave to the English historian; and confine myself to such transactions of this nobleman, as are more intimately connected with my present subject.

In 1643 he was commanded by Charles the first to retire to the isle of Man; not only for its defence, but also, that by his presence he might check the spirit of liberty, which had animated his subjects to resist the rigour of their lieutenants, and the more odious oppression of their clergy. The discontents of the nation were however so violent, that he judged it prudent to convene the twenty-four Keys, and sixty-eight ‡ parochial representatives. From each body he selected twelve men, whom he appointed to investigate, and present all such abuses as had been committed against the laws of the land and the public weal. This assembly discharged with fidelity the duty they owed to their constituents and to posterity: for, several abuses (chiefly clerical) were presented, and immediately abolished. And as the people formerly combated with success the encroachments of prerogative, they now triumphed over the pride and avarice of their spiritual oppressors §.

Having thus established tranquillity among his subjects, he hastened from Man, to support his lady, who was then gallantly defending Latham-house against a detachment of the parliamentary forces, under the command of General Fairfax. But soon after, through the jealousy of some potent courtiers, he was again compelled to visit the island. The mortifications he thus suffered from the sycophants of a weak prince, to whom he was zealously devoted, were mitigated by the presence of his lady and family, who on this occasion accompanied him. During his residence here, General Ireton proposed to him the re-possession of his estates in England, on condition of surrendering

* Charlotte, daughter of Claude, Duke de la Tremouille.

† Though he strenuously adhered to Charles the second, that prodigal prince refused his assent to a Bill, passed unanimously by both houses of parliament, for restoring to the family such part of the estates in England as had been lost by their loyalty to him and his father! A memorable instance of the gratitude of princes!

‡ There are seventeen parishes in the island: accordingly, four representatives for every parish were summoned on this occasion. This selection from the Keys and parochial representatives did not affect the constitution of the country. They had not power to abrogate or frame laws, but only to present and investigate abuses: which being chiefly clerical, the friends of a reform prudently judged, that the amplest support was necessary to eradicate those evils the church had authorized.

§ Though the errors of popery in this island yielded to the reformed principles, soon after their establishment in England; yet, till 1643, the clergy retained an ample portion of intolerant power.

the isle of Man to the parliament: but this proposal the Earl of Derby treated with the highest indignation. His answer is preserved in Hume's history; and is more distinguished by enthusiasm and arrogance, than calm magnanimity.

After the death of Charles the first, the Earl of Derby, being invited to England by the young Prince returned with three hundred soldiers of birth and fortune, leaving his lady and part of his family in the island. He was present at the battle of Worcester, from the dangers of which he assisted Charles the second to escape: but on returning into Lancashire was taken prisoner; and on the 15th October 1651, suffered at Bolton, for his enthusiastic attachment to principles, that will ever prove equally hostile to the dignity of the prince, and the happiness of the people.

His lady was then in the isle of Man, and on being informed of the decollation of her husband, she retired into Castle-Rushen, determined to defend that fortress to the last extremity. From the execution of this heroic purpose she was however prevented by the prudence of Captain Christian, in whom she chiefly confided. Being a native of the isle, he was attached to its welfare; and to save his countrymen from the miseries of war, capitulated to colonels Birch and Duckenfield, who with ten armed vessels had invaded the island; but on whose arrival, the whole country submitted to the government of the republic. By this event the Countess of Derby was detained a prisoner till the restoration; yet during her captivity was honoured with all the deference and respect due to her heroism and virtues. On her liberation she retired to Knowsley, where the odious neglect and ingratitude of Charles the second embittered her life, and hastened her dissolution*.

Soon after its reduction in 1652, the isle of Man was granted to

LORD FAIRFAX,

in a manner more honourable than any former possessor had obtained it. It was conferred upon him, not by the folly or prodigality of princes, but by the justice of Parliament, for his gallant and generous exertions in the cause of mankind.

On the accession of Charles the second to that throne, which his father had lost by his pusillanimity and despotism, the isle of Man, with all its regalities and privileges, was restored to the Derby family.

CHARLES,

the son of the nobleman who suffered at Bolton, was the first Lord of Man after the restoration. He died in 1672, and was succeeded by his eldest son,

WILLIAM:

on whose decease in 1702; the younger son,

JAMES,

inherited the honours and estates of the family; being the tenth Earl of Derby, and of the Stanley line the thirteenth Lord of Man.

Notwithstanding the late struggles of the Manks for civil liberty, the tenures of many of their lands were so intricate and precarious, as to injure the people, without increasing the revenue of the lord. Accordingly, James, in 1703, by an act of Tynwald, (commonly stiled the Act of Settlement) ascertained and confirmed these possessions: and by this policy, or generosity, considerably promoted the peace and prosperity of his subjects. He died in 1735, without issue; and this ample inheritance of the isle of Man devolved on

JAMES,

the second Duke of Athol; who was descended from Lady Amelia Sophia †, the younger daughter of the seventh Earl of Derby.

* See Chap. IX. of the Tour.

† She married John, Marquis of Athol, grandfather of James.

During his possession of the island, its real interests were either mistaken or neglected. Agricultural industry yielded to a spirit of illicit enterprize *, which, though it enriched a few individuals, impoverished the community. This commerce was in open violation of the laws of the island; was destructive of the prosperity of the people, and injurious to the interests of the neighbouring kingdoms: however, as it considerably increased his insular revenue, the Duke of Athol possessed not the magnanimity to attempt its abolition.

This fraudulent trade in 1726 had engaged the attention of the British legislature; and an act was then passed, authorizing the Earl of Derby, for a pecuniary compensation, to resign his royalties. Under the government of the Duke of Athol, this clandestine commerce was prosecuted with such increasing avidity, as to demand the immediate interposition of the superior power. Consequently, several proposals were made to him, for re-vesting the royalty of the isle in the crown of Britain: but, without seeming to reject these, James, by various procrastinations, politicly evaded their acceptance.

He died in 1764; and his nephew and successor,

JOHN †,

being a weak prince, was partly intimidated, and partly allured to resign (for seventy thousand pounds ‡) the kingdom of his ancestors. Accordingly, on the 7th of March 1765, the regal dignity of Mona was for ever lost in the superior effulgence of the British diadem. But though this change affected her ancient splendour and temporary interests, it soon increased and confirmed her happiness §: So that now from the bounty of Heaven, and the establishment of the British government, the island enjoys a plenitude of blessings ||.

* See Chap. XVI. of the Tour. — To render the historical account more perfect, a few repetitions have been inserted from the topographical department.

† By his descent, he inherited the dukedom of Athol; and by his marriage with the daughter of the late duke, he obtained the kingdom of Man. His eldest son now possesses the former honour; — the latter is for ever lost to that family.

‡ An annuity of 2000*l.* was afterwards obtained for the lives of himself and his duchess.

§ Since 1765, the population of the isle of Man has considerably increased: it now amounts to 30,000 inhabitants. The island extends from north to south upwards of 30 miles—but rarely exceeds 12 miles in breadth.

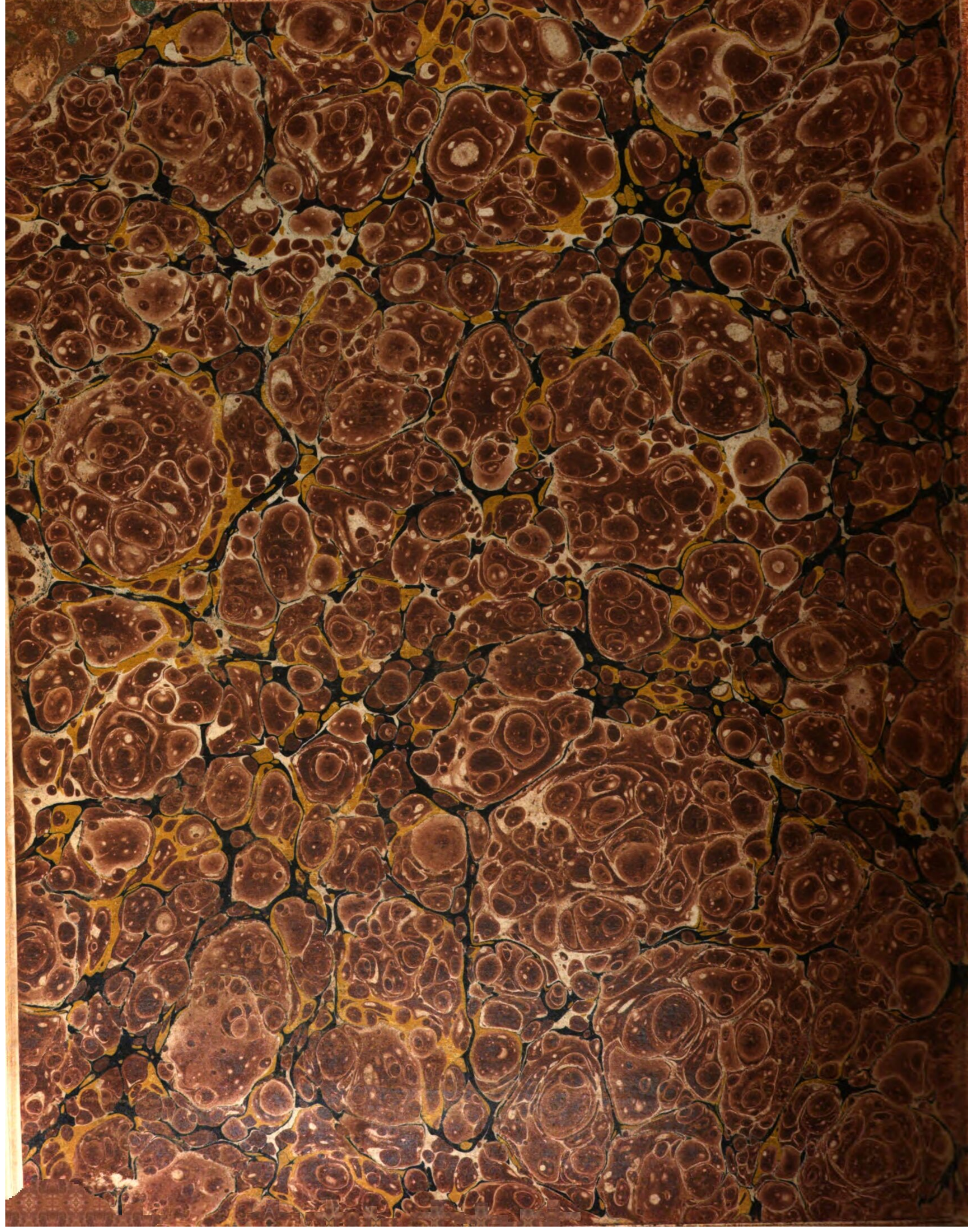
|| Some concluding observations are omitted as of a local nature.

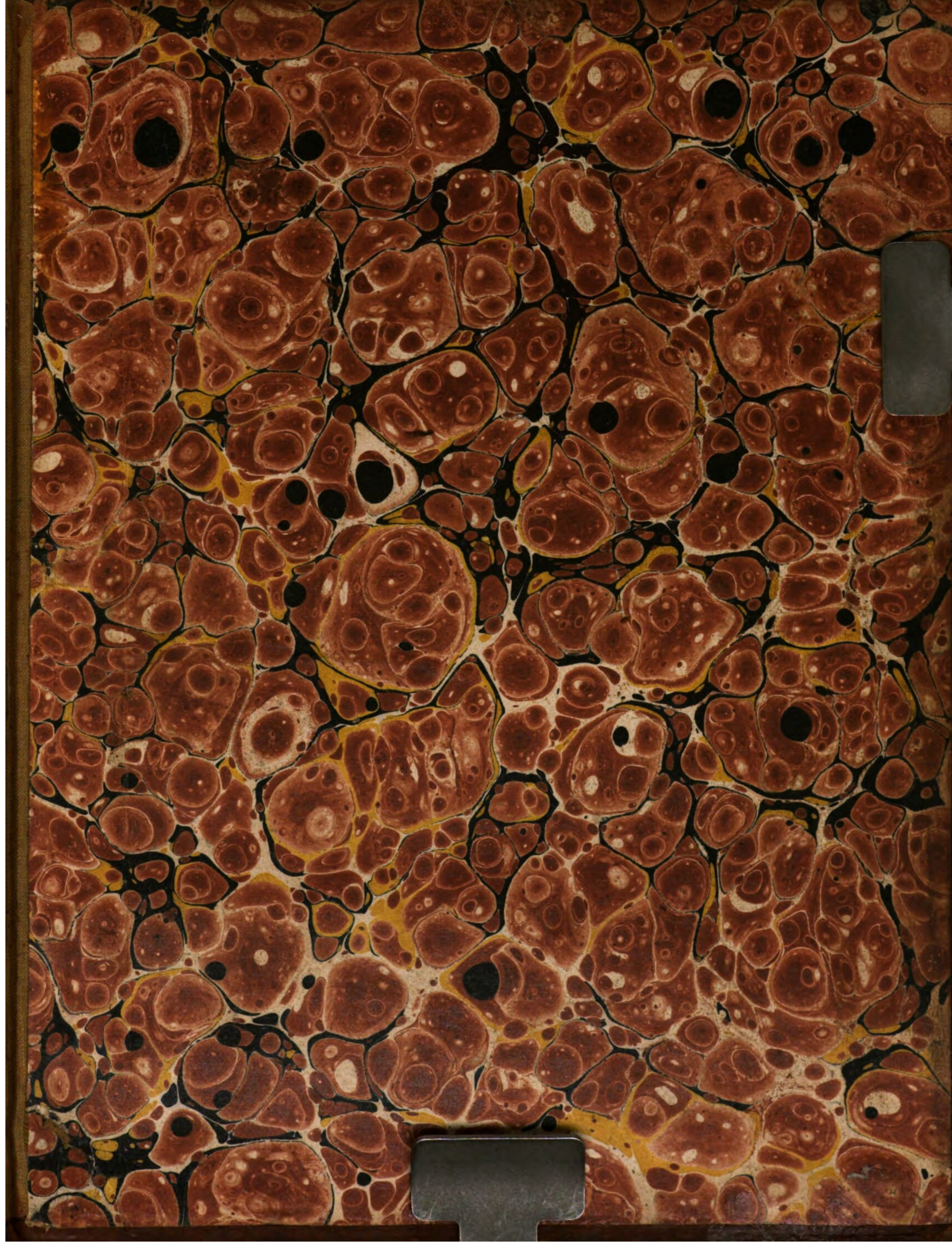
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